FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BBC REPORTS POSSIBLE USE OF GAS ON REBELS

FAU31613 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 23 Apr 80

[From "Radio Newsreel"]

[Text] There have been persistent reports that the Soviet forces in Afghanistan are using gas against their guerrilla opponents in dissident areas. Some reports have suggested that a form of nerve gas has been used, while others make it seem more likely that Soviet troops are employing something altogether milder, a sort of riot-control gas. Tyne Mason has been talking to some of those treating Afghan refugees in the Pakistani frontier town of Peshawar from where he sent us this report.

Most of these reports are hearsay, and since they mostly speak of gases that cause temporary disability it is not easy to find victims who have been brought to Pakistan for treatment. One qualified observer who said he had seen such cases, however, is a doctor in charge of the hospital for wounded guerrillas run by one of the rebel groups based in Peshawar. He told me that in the past he had seen four or five cases of gas poisoning which after examination he passed on to local civil hospitals for treatment.

The symptoms he described were asphyxia, vomiting, salivation, dizziness and burns to the skin. The effects he said could persist for up to a month with continuing dizziness as well as headaches and loss of appetite. This doctor, who said he had studied military methods, identified the gas responsible as belonging to the organic phosphorus group. He said such gases are considered to be of a moderate action, so a heavy dose could kill.

The cases seen by this doctor came from Konarha Province where the Soviet-backed regime in Afghanistan launched a counteroffensive against guerrillas early in March. Confirmation that such gas is being used comes from foreign relief workers who say they have seen about two dozen cases in various refugee camps during the past 6 weeks. One is a man aged perhaps in his fifties who is still suffering the effects of the gas attacks about a month ago in Konarha. He describes a green-colored gas dropped by helicopter. It rolled down the hillside he said, and any one in contact with it quickly became unconscious, and according to this man, only for a short time.

KARMAL SPEAKS AT STATE, PARTY FLAG-RAISING CEREMONIES

Description of State Flag

LD232002 Kabul in Pashto to Europe 1730 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Speech by Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Revolutionary Council, at the 21 April ceremony at the House of the People in Kabul to mark the inauguration of the new state flag--recorded. Karmal speaking in Dari]

[Excerpts] Friends, comrades, free and heroic people of Afghanistan: Flag and (?emblem) are regarded in human history as the symbols of identity of the various groups, masses and crowds of people including the tribes, ethnic groups and nationalities, classes and strata, and social organizations and parties in the capacity of progressive symbols of unity and freedom, independence and sovereignty, just struggles and revolutionary movements, liberation movements and the armed uprising of the masses in the direction of the realization of their high aspirations.

The state emblem of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] consists of a representation of the altar and pulpit against a green background, as well as an open book and rays of rising sun in the center and a gear set in a framework of ears of wheat entwined and three colored ribbons--black, red and green. Placed in the upper part between the ears is the red 5-pointed star.

The state flag of the DRA is a historical tricolored one--black, red and green--in the form of horizontal stripes of equal size. In the top corner of the flag is located the state emblem of the DRA [words indistinct].

Dear free and independent compatriots of Afghanistan, this tricolored flag and the emblem in every way represent the will of our people and are in complete harmony with our national and religious tradition, our progressive and revolutionary hopes and with the present conditions and development stage of our society.

For example, the black color of the flag, on the whole, reflects the historical struggles of Abu-Muslim Khorasani and his comrades in struggle. The red color of the flag reflects the brave struggles of our people and the martyrs for freedom and independence and the liberating Saur Revolution who fought heroically and lost their lives but did not abandon the path of struggle. The green color of the flag reflects the Islamic society of Afghanistan, and the prosperity, welfare and blossoming of the country. The altar in the emblem represents the sacred place of worship for the toiling Muslims, and the pulpit is the place of guidance for the Muslims in the righteous path, in the way of truth, in the way of equality and fraternity, in the way of the freedom of the deprived people, i.e., the workers who suffered under the tyranny and oppression of the savage tyrants. The sun represents Khorasan, the old name of Afghanistan; Khorasan i.e., the country where the shining sun rises. Again with this meaning the liberating sun of our masses is permanently shining in our beloved homeland, Afghanistan. [applause] The open book symbolizes the enlightenment of the people of vision and symbolizes the scientific and cultural revolution of our toiling people. The Afghan star represents the historic and national happiness and symbolizes the fortune and victory of our people. The gear [words indistinct] is the symbol of work and the epoch-making working class and the industrialization of our country. The ear of wheat comes from the agricultural country and represents the major role of our toiling farmers and the bountiful growth of agriculture in our beloved country, Afghanistan.

In this way, the DRA state flag and emblem were approved--without any form of narrowmindedness or (?lack of insight), or unavailing struggle to impose our will on the objective realities of society and on the basis of the will of the Muslim hard-working people and other compatriots--by the Central Committee plenum of our glorious party, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, and the Revolutionary Council of the DRA. [applause] I have described briefly the particulars of our flag on behalf of the Revolutionary Council and the DRA Government to the peace-seeking and noble people of Afghanistan.

Party Flag Inaugural Address

LD2117Z0 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1750 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the DRA, on the occasion of the hoisting of the flag of the PDPA at the PDPA Central Committee building on 21 April--recorded]

[Text] Comrades, sincere brothers! In continuation of my speech on the occasion of the hoisting of the national state flag of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA]: Let the red flag of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], the working class party and the party of all the toilers of Afghanistan, be hoisted side by side with the national state flag of the DRA. [applause] And in such a creative manner, may the bodies of the sworn enemies of our party's invincible unity be set on fire. [applause]

Let the red flag of our party flutter, this gain of the pure blood of millions of martyred workers around the world, including the martyrs of the successful Saur Revolution, so that once again like a volcano we [?make] the palaces of reaction and imperialism tremble. [applause]

Let the red flag of our party, which is a symbol of the uprisings of the masses of our country, and also with the symbol of ears of wheat and corn, which is a symbol of the unity of workers and peasants of our country, be hoisted, and successfully take to its final stage the national and democratic revolution, which is antifeudal, anti-imperialist and anticomprador, let us once again move forward the stage of our social revolution, our bastion against the enemies of the working class, with full uproar carry it forward. [applause]

With the hoisting of the red flag of our party, this party of heroes, this party of martyrs, the martyred Nur Mohammad Taraki, Khaiber [Parcham leader] [applause] and thousands of our martyred comrades who are no longer with us in the bastion of our just struggle, but whose proud memories are alive in our heart and conscience, let us express our solidarity with the peace-loving powers of the world, the freedom of the masses, national independence, progressive democracy, in other words with the idol of [word indistinct] of our period the world socialist system, [?the struggle] of the world working class, the movement for national social independence, headed by the great neighbor and the sincere friend of the toilers of Afghanistan and of the world, the USSR. [applause] By the hoisting of the red flag of our [word indistinct] new party in one wide fatherland national front, by performing sincere service for the oppressed people of our proud country, may beloved Afghanistan, heroic and revolutionary Afghanistan, go forward side by side with bravery and humility, and once again go forward. [applause]

By hoisting the red flag of our party, the party of Afghanistan's proletariat, may we in one extensive world front with a love of patriotism and in the essence of internationalism, [?united] with our international comrades and with the indefatigable [?aid] of the USSR, surge forward [?and deal blows] to all palaces of oppression and reaction, colonialism [word indistinct] world imperialism and its usurers, Zionism and fascism, and to [?reformism] and racism, and with the successful wave of history [?surge forward]. [applause]

Comrades, [?our blood and our life are our country]. Let us once again talk under this red flag of unity of workers and peasants, the flag of the basic unity of our proud party, the PDPA, the ideological unity, organizational unity, the political unity of our party, the theoretical revolutionary flag of ours, with total sacrifice of blood and soul, and let us keep it hoisted.

[applause] [Words indistinct] the most dedicated brothers who are one soul and one body, and who share each others' blood, with burning love for one another for the revitalization of the heavy revolutionary duties, which have been given to us after the new stage of the successful Saur Revolution, hand in hand like the invincible steel chains of the [word indistinct] world, forward toward success, toward the prosperous future of our future generations, once again we go forward. [applause]

Comrades, death, flag and our proletarian life are one in our united party. It is not two. It is only the enemies of the world proletariat who say (?it is) two. Death to the enemies. [applause]

With these lofty noble aims of the proletariat, I hoist the flag of my beloved party, a party that is [word indistinct] and our wisdom, the party that is our heart and conscience. Long live the successful revolution of the people. [applause]

HEALTH MINISTER RETURNS FROM USSR VISIT; PROTOCOL SIGNED

LD232306 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Summary] Dr Zara, first deputy of the Ministry of Health, who headed a delegation to that country upon the invitation of his Soviet counterpart, has returned to Kabul. "He visited some health institutes of the USSR and signed the protocol for all-round cooperation with authorities of that country."

SOVIET-BUILT COMMUNICATIONS CENTER INAUGURATED 23 APR

LD232325 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] A 15-kilowatt communications center was inaugurated in the Yaka Tute area this afternoon by Engineer Pir Mohammad Zayri, technical deputy of the Ministry of Communications. The center has already started work.

The center, which cost Rl20,000, is the grant-in-aid of the friendly country the USSR and (?its installation) was carried out by Afghan engineers and technicians and Soviet experts in 4 months--2 months ahead of schedule.

Before opening the center the deputy of the Ministry of Communications expressed thanks on behalf of the DRA Government and the Ministry of Communications, to the friendly and great neighboring country, the USSR, and appreciated the hard work of domestic and Soviet engineers in installing and activating the center.

A source of the Ministry of Communications said that the communications center with the power of 15 kilowatts has two channels--one telephone, and the other channel for four telegraphic channels, all of which can function simultaneously. The source said that this center with two of its double (?rhombic) antenna can work on [word indistinct] from 2 to 27.5 megacycles.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER REPORTS ON LAND REFORM

LD232307 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Summary] The third meeting of the board of agricultural activities was held in the Ministry of Agriculture under the chairmanship of Minister Fazl Rahim Mohamand. The minister of agriculture said that the second stage of the Saur Revolution has made it possible for the further expansion of agriculture. The meeting decided to organize activity units and send them to 10 provinces.

The second phase of agricultural reform includes "the strengthening of agricultural sectors and the distribution of the official ownership receipts to the landowners with the view of article 19 of the Basic Principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, according to which the state recognizes the ownership of land by peasants and other landowners according to law, and guarantees and respects it. Hence, respected landowners who obtain the official receipt for land ownership as a result of the second phase of land reform, could engage in selling and buying, patrimony and other forms of land transfer--mortgaging and subsidies. When necessary they should settle matters according to the historic 10 January 1980 speech of Babrak Karmal and the law for guaranteeing land affairs."

REBEL LEADER CITES RESISTANCE TO SOVIET PRESENCE

LD2315Z0 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Apr p 1

[Interview granted to Hasan Luqays by Afghanistan Islamic association chief Professor Burhanuddin Rabbani in London--date not given]

[Text] [Question] What is the news from the front on both the Pakistani-Afghan border and inside Afghanistan, with the advent of spring?

[Answer] For our part, we have drawn up a plan suitable for the spring season. The enemy--the Soviet forces--also have a plan. The enemy has planned for concentrated attacks on several areas inside Afghanistan, claiming that he can destroy the strongholds of the mojahedin. They began attacking many areas with various types of sophisticated weapons, tanks and aircraft. They also used poisonous gases. They attacked the Jalalabad area and several areas in the south [as published] close to the Soviet-Afghan border. The mojahedin and our movement, which represents the Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan, are now in a position to act with the required speed, especially now that the ice has begun to thaw. We can now operate day and night. As part of their plan the Soviets have so far attacked Konarha and Badakhshan provinces. After they had destroyed a large number of villages and taken control of this area we launched a counteroffensive at night, inflicting losses on the enemy and forcing him to withdraw from the area. The enemy does not have forces in this area at present. The same thing happened in the northern provinces. But after we inflicted the losses on the Soviet forces they resorted to other methods. Helicopters now come from Soviet territories, kidnap our men and take them back to Soviet territory. [Sentence as published; unclear whether "Soviet-controlled territories" is intended]

[Question] What information do you have about the political and military situation inside Afghanistan?

[Answer] As you know, the political situation is not in the hands of the Afghan people. There is no government representing the people but there is a Soviet government under Afghan names. Babrak Karmal is merely a name that has absolutely no say in political decisions. The occupation forces have launched barbaric campaigns against the citizens but have failed to achieve their aims. To date, over 5,000 Soviet soldiers have been killed. There are others being killed daily. Their morale is very low. Proof of this is the fact that the Soviet soldiers dare not face the mojahedin without tanks. Their plan now is to use vehicles only. They cannot penetrate the villages which constitute great strongholds for our fighters.

[Question] Do the people in Afghanistan cooperate with the occupation forces?

[Answer] Even in the capital the Afghan people do not cooperate with these forces at all. Even the children, the women and the aged are resisting the occupation. We thought that Kabul could not resist because its inhabitants were leading an easy life, but we discovered that the inhabitants of the capital did resist and that children, men and women have been killed. They staged demonstrations and attacked the tanks with rocks. The first martyr was a Kabul girl who was killed while raising the flag. The Soviets are also facing supply difficulties because the inhabitants are boycotting them.

[Question] What is the fate of the mojahedin's political and military union?

[Answer] We have now begun to organize military action after having established a political union comprising five organizations. It is called "The Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan." Regarding military action, military activities are assigned to various areas. Because we cannot coordinate orders on all fronts, we have established in each province a local military command under the union's political leadership. These military commands direct military action under a central command.

[Question] Is there any contact between you and the Soviets with a view to reaching a solution to this problem or your returning to your country?

[Answer] There are no direct contacts at all between us and the Soviet Union. However, the Soviets have contacted a number of states in an effort to cool the situation, but not to meet the demands of the mojahedin, and also in order for them to stay in Afghanistan in a different way--that is, by replacing Babrak Karmal with another person and other tricks. These contacts will not affect our plan and we are continuing our struggle.

KARMAL SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO PDRY LEADER

LD232210 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The Information Department of the Foreign Ministry reports that Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, has sent a congratulatory message to Aden on the occasion of the election of His Excellency 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, as general secretary of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, and president and prime minister of the PDRY.

OFFICIALS ATTEND DPRK EMBASSY RECEPTION

LD232218 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Summary] On the occasion of the 48th anniversary of the People's Army of the DPRK, a party was given in the embassy of that country in Kabul. Lt Col Mohammad Aslam Watanjar, member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, member of the Revolutionary Council [RC] Presidium and minister of communications; Lt Col Gol Aqa, member of the Central Committee, member of the RC Presidium and the general director of political affairs of the armed forces; Shah Mohammad Dost, member of the Central Committee, member of the RC Presidium and foreign minister; the general commander of the central armed forces and other officials participated.

BULGARIAN TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES ON 4-DAY VISIT

BK2314GO Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] A 5-member Bulgarian trade delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade Georgi Vutev arrived in Dacca yesterday evening on a 4-day visit to Bangladesh.

Talking to newsmen, the Bulgarian minister said his country is keen on expanding trade and economic relations with Bangladesh to the mutual benefit of the countries. Vutev said that during his stay in Dacca he will try to identify new areas of cooperation. There was great scope for expanding trade between the two countries, he said. The Bulgarian minister said that his country has the intention to increase the volume of barter trade with Bangladesh and expressed satisfaction over the performance of bilateral trade and cooperation between the two countries.

The main object of Vutev's current visit is to officially sign the seventh barter protocol with Bangladesh, which had been initialed earlier. The seventh barter protocol for 1979-80 envisages a total turnover of goods worth $20 million both ways. Bulgaria imports from Bangladesh jute and jute goods, hides and skin, tea and such nontraditional items like handicraft, safety matches, cables, specialized textiles and readymade garments.

Trade Talks Begin

BK2314G5 Dacca Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Formal trade talks between Bangladesh and Bulgaria were held in Dacca today. The Bangladesh side at the talks was led by Commerce Secretary Matiur Rahman while visiting Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade G. Vutev led the Bulgarian delegation.

During the meeting the two sides reviewed in detail the progress of trade between the two countries. The meeting also identified the bottleneck in the way of expanding bilateral trade and discussed measures to overcome them. The need to increase exports of Bangladesh commodities to Bulgaria was also highlighted in the meeting. The Bulgarian side had shown keen interest to increase the import of Bangladesh goods, particularly nontraditional items. The possibility of increased economic cooperation between Bangladesh and Bulgaria also figured prominently at the meeting. It was noted that there was immense scope for establishing fur- and vegetable-processing industry and other agrobased industrial units, including poultry and dairy farms in Bangladesh with Bulgarian cooperation and assistance.

The two sides also discussed the possibility of joint ventures between Bangladesh and Bulgaria. The meeting stressed the need for increased flow of trade information, more frequent exchange of trade delegations and organizing trade fairs in each other's country for the promotion of bilateral trade. During the meeting the Bulgarian side had expressed its eagerness to extend assistance to Bangladesh in its efforts to exploit mineral resources.

The seventh barter protocol between Bangladesh and Bulgaria will be signed [words indistinct].

Earlier, the visiting trade delegation called on Commerce Minister Saifur Rahman. Rahman gave an outline of the priority under the second 5-year plan to be launched in July next. The Bulgarian deputy minister for foreign trade said his country is very keen to further develop the existing economic and commercial cooperation with Bangladesh.

INA: GOVERNMENT MIGHT NEGOTIATE WITH USSR ON AFGHANISTAN

JN231136 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] New Delhi, 23 April--The INA correspondent learned here today that the Indian Government wishes to hold comprehensive negotiations with Soviet officials before taking any new steps to solve the Afghan problem.

The correspondent added that Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi might delegate an Indian envoy to Moscow in order to become thoroughly acquainted with Soviet intentions before Pakistani presidential adviser Agha Shahi's visit to New Delhi in May. The visit is for the purpose of completing the Indian-Pakistani dialogue.

Working on reports recently received from Islamabad, the correspondent said that Pakistan has imposed some restrictions on the activities of the Afghan refugees.

HINDU CITED ON HAQ REMARKS TO GANDHI ON AFGHAN REFUGEES

BK231521 Hong Kong AFP in English 1512 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] New Delhi, 23 April (AFP)--Pakistan President General Ziaul Haq has told Prime Minister Indira Gandhi that he is prepared to have a United Nations observer group, with countries like India represented on it, to inquire into the charges that the Afghan refugees are being trained and armed in Pakistan, the influential English daily HINDU said today.

Quoting well-informed sources, the paper said that General Zia conveyed his feeling to Mrs Gandhi when they met at Salisbury.

"The present military regime in Pakistan has already placed some curbs on the activities of the Afghan refugees and it is not overtly resorting to any activity that could be used by the Soviet Union as an excuse for attacking those camps under the guise of exercising its right of hot pursuit," HINDU, which is known for its credibility, said.

"The Indian policy is to encourage Pakistan to disengage itself from the dangerous gamble of attempting to exert military pressure on the Soviet forces in Afghanistan, when it should be concentrating its efforts on finding a political solution by working in concert with other likeminded nations," the newspaper said.

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING UNREST IN NORTHEASTERN STATES

Delhi Reports Assam Quiet

BK240805 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The overall situation in the curfew-bound Narangi headquarters of the Oil India Limited in Assam and other places in the state is reported to be quiet but tense.

Meanwhile, six political parties in Assam have urged the prime minister to renew negotiations with the leaders of the current agitation in the state. The request was made in a telegram to Mrs Gandhi. The parties are Janata, Congress-U, Communist Party of India-Marxist, Communist Party of India, Revolutionary Communist Party of India and Socialist Unity Center of India.

State Janata leader Dulal Chandra Barua has urged Mrs Gandhi to convene a roundtable conference of political parties, agitation leaders andother prominent citizens in order to find a solution to the foreign nationals issue.

AFP: Takeover of Radio

BK240642 Hong Kong AFP in English 0622 GMT 24 Apr 80

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] Gauhati, Assam (India) 24 April (AFP)--Paramilitary forces today cordoned off the All-India Radio station here as federal government bureaucrats from New Delhi took control of the news rooms. In an unexpected move, the authorities here took control of the radio station following intelligence reports that the students were planning a seige of the station situated in the heart of the city.

The Assamese staff of the station who were accused of giving pro-agitation news and commentaries, were told that they should not broadcast news which would inflame passions and aggravate the situation in the agitation-bound state, or face stern actions. The radio in India is under the full control of the federal government.

Highly placed source in the local administration said that they were aware of an effective "indirect control", the agitators were exercising. With a cooperating Assamese staff, the agitators were using the radio as an important media outlet, the sources said.

The director general of the All-India Radio in New Delhi Mr U.L. Barua who came here to coordinate the federal government's action held meetings with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's administrators here and decided to exercise federal control on broadcast.

Meanwhile, informed sources here said that the federal government was rushing an unspecified number of senior officers from New Delhi to assist Mrs Gandhi's administrators. The step was taken following an unconfirmed revolt by a section of Assamese bureaucrats last Saturday (19 April), who refused to obey government order for a crackdown on the agitators.

The Assamese bureaucrats made a faux pas with the curfew order which was imposed at dawn on Saturday and was subsequently lifted around noon by a senior Assamese bureaucrat. Government sources, however, refuse to confirm the reported revolt.

The Assam administration is finding it difficult to meet the emergency created by the boycott of offices by the government employees in response to a call given by the All-Assam-Gana Sangram Parishad (All Assam Peoples Fighting Forum).

Barring a handful of senior officials, the 106,666 staff members of the state government did not report for duty today, third day of the mass picketing programme in front of the government offices. Though the senior officials are attending office, most of them have sympathy with the movement and therefore are not giving their best. They are also under pressure from the local population.

A proposal to bring oil technicians and engineers from outside Assam to make oil flow from the oil installations at Narangi, near here, was not found feasible. Without the help of the local people, the government will not be able to revive the oil flow.

Though the Narangi oil installation is now under the control of the army since Monday, unofficial reports said that the agitators were dispatching thousands of picketers to picket the booster stations along the 1100 kms (700 miles) long pipeline that carries Assam's 4.6 million tonnes of crude (out of 5.45 million tonnes annual production) to the Barauni refinery in the Bihar state.

Work in all the central and state government offices throughout the state remained paralized today as the week-long boycott entered its third day. The air, train, essential services and the road transport system have, however, been exempted from the purview of the boycott.

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Official sources here said that "several hundred" people, majority of them women, were arrested today for defying government order which prohibits assembly of more than five persons in public places. Till late morning, there was no report of violence.

The seven month old Assam agitation had demanding detection or deportation of about five million immigrants from neighbouring Bangladesh and Nepal. The Assamese argue that the immigrants would soon out number them in their own homeland. Of the total population of 19.2 million in Assam, the Assamese speaking people constitute only 10 million and the rest are either foreign immigrants or Indians from the Gangetic Plains.

Negotiations between Mrs Gandhi and the agitation leaders have so far failed as they could not agree to fix the base year which should determine the status of the immigrants. The students are asking for 1951 as the base year, whereas Mrs Gandhi is agreeable to offer 1971 as the cut-off year.

Gandhi Meets Chief Ministers

BK2305l0 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The prime minister has said that she has no rigid views on the problems of Assam and she is prepared to consider and accommodate all reasonable demands of the people of the state. Mrs Gandhi was addressing a meeting of the chief ministers of the northeastern region in New Delhi yesterday. She felt the work on the identification of foreigners can start without insisting upon any particular cutoff year. Mrs Gandhi told the six chief ministers that she is interested in the development of the entire region.

The chief ministers apprised the prime minister of the general situation in their states. In this context, Mrs Gandhi said that the Assam agitation is proving harmful to the entire region. Besides the chief ministers of Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya, the central ministers, Kamalapati Tripathi, Zail Singh, Narsimha Rao, Mr Stephen, Virendra Patil, Rao Birendra Singh, Pranab Mukerjee and Venkat Subbaiah also attended the meeting.

Soon after the 2-hour meeting, the six chief ministers made a joint appeal to the people of Assam to respond without any further delay to the prime minister's suggestion for creating conditions in which identification of foreigners can start and the agitation on the issue can be called off. They fully endorsed the suggestion made by Mrs Gandhi during her last visit to the state. The prolonged agitation, they said, is causing untold sufferings to the people of the entire northeastern region. The chief minister said that they are interested in the welfare and prosperity of the entire region in which Assam plays a vital role. But without restoration of normalcy, no progress can be made in the region, nor can the people's grievances be redressed.

It may be recalled that a similar appeal was made by the chief ministers of Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram, the deputy chief minister of Meghalaya and the finance minister of Manipur on the 8th of this month.

Union of India Files Petition

BK221646 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Apr 80

[Text] The Union of India filed today a special leave petition in the Supreme Court against the order of the Gauhati high court on the 18th of this month, staying the operation of section 4 of the Assam Disturbed Area Act, 1955, and section 4A of the Armed Forces Assam and Manipur Special Power Act, 1958, while vacating the stay in respect of the other sections of the two acts and the notification issued by the government of Assam under them.

The main ground urging the special leave petition is that the government is not claiming any right to shoot to kill. This is not envisaged in the [?said] section. The petition says that there have been misleading reports about it. It was erroneous to say that the power under these sections was the power to shoot at sight in order to kill.

Manipur Strike Peaceful

BK2213l4 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 22 Apr 80

[Text] In Manipur, the partial bundh [strike] sponsored by the students organizations in Imphal for the second day today passed off peacefully. Shops were closed and government offices reported thin attendance. The Indian Airlines flights to and from Imphal remained suspended. The students have announced that the bundh will not be observed tomorrow in view of the [Konjan] martyrs day.

DETAINEES IN GANDHI ASSASSINATION CASE RELEASED ON BAIL

BK240914 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The Supreme Court has ordered the release on bail of Baroda Deputy Mayor Pratap Ramchandani and four others arrested in the case of the attempt on the life of the prime minister earlier this month.

Chief Justice Y.B. Chandrachud and Justice D.A. Desai, who heard the bail applications, ordered the release of the five persons on a personal bond of 5,000 rupees each to be executed by them. The court also directed that they should present themselves before the chief judicial magistrate of Baroda by 1530 tomorrow. The chief justice also observed that the court's order would be subject to the orders the Baroda chief judicial magistrate might pass after hearing the petitioners tomorrow.

VIZOL MINISTRY RESIGNS IN NAGALAND

BK181022 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Apr 80

[Excerpts] In Nagaland, a 3-member United Legislature Party ministry headed by S.C. Jamir was sworn in this afternoon in Kohima by Governor L.P. Singh. Besides Jamir, the other two ministers are T.A. Ngullie of the Congress-I and Dr Setu of the Naga National Party.

The United Legislature Party is a coalition of three parties: the United Democratic Front--Progressive, the Congress-I and the Naga National Party.

Earlier, Chief Minister Vizol submitted the resignation of his council of ministers without facing the trial of strength in the assembly.

GOVERNMENT TO SEND SPECIAL EMISSARIES TO ISLAMIC CAPITALS

BK2302302 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, quoting informed sources in Islamabad, has said that three of Pakistan's senior diplomatic representatives will soon visit the capitals of Islamic countries as special government emissaries in order to clarify Pakistan's stand on the main issues on the agenda of the forthcoming Islamic foreign ministers conference.

These diplomatic representatives are Pakistan's Ambassador to Afghanistan Altaf Shaikh, Ambassador to the Soviet Union Sahabzada Yaqub Ali and Pakistan's UN Representative Niaz A Naik. It is expected that these representatives will brief these countries on Pakistan's viewpoint on the regional situation.

ECONOMIC PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH YUGOSLAVIA

WA2210430 Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 10 Apr 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] Islamabad, April 9: Pakistan and Yugoslavia signed here today a protocol providing for further cooperation in the fields of industry, agriculture, housing, electricity and mineral exploration.

The protocol was signed on the basis of the conclusions reached during the second session of Pak-Yugoslav Joint Governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific, Technical, Cultural and Educational Cooperations.

The two sides identified projects for further possible cooperation both in the public and private sectors in the fields of manufacturing of cement plants, progressive manufacture of tractors, modernising of chemical industries, manufacturing of agricultural implements, pre-fabricated houses, collaboration in the manufacture of hydel and thermal generation, grid stations and transmission lines, mineral explorations and establishment of agricultural combines near important cities.

In the scientific and technical fields, Yugoslavia offered research facilities in advance technology and agreed to exchange research information.

Yugoslavia further offered to provide at their own expenses the services of four leading experts in fields of Pakistan's choice for a period of three months each.

Trade Balance

The commission noted that trade balance was still adverse for Pakistan. However, it was noted with satisfaction that recently exports from Pakistan had appreciably increased, thus arresting the previous trend.

The commission which concluded its three-day deliberations, reviewed the progress of implementation of the decisions included in the protocol of the first session held in Belgrade in January last year.

The deliberations of the commission took place in an atmosphere of cooperation and mutual interest. The commission noted with satisfaction the expansion of scope for economic, technical and scientific cooperation between the two countries.

DAWN VIEWS LATEST CARTER MOVE AGAINST IRAN

HK240215 Karachi DAWN in English 21 Apr 80 p 7

[Editorial: "The Deepening Crisis"]

[Text] President Carter's announcement spelling out wide-ranging steps against Iran will add to the tensions in the region which have been building up since November when the American diplomats were seized as hostages by militant Iranian students in Tehran. Although the latest American move should not bring about any vital change in the economic status quo, it will certainly lead to a worsening of the political and diplomatic climate in the region. The embargo on the shipment of food and medicines to Iran, which President Carter intends to impose, and the ban on travel and financial transfers to Iran (an exception being made for the media) which he has now announced have more or less already been in effect since last year when the administration first decided to freeze Iranian assets. Trade between Washington and Tehran has been virtually at a standstill and, with means of payments choked off, financial transactions have been minimal. Hence, the U.S. Government's moves will hardly create the economic pressures against Iran they are designed to do. Moreover, with the Iranians already in possession of 6 months' supply of essential goods, an embargo on food and drugs will not make its impact felt immediately.

Politically, however, the American move is bound to have repercussions not only on U.S.-Iran relations but also on Washington's ties with its own allies and on regional politics, especially in the context of super-power rivalry in the Persian Gulf area. One can understand President Carter's own domestic compulsions in an election year in the context of widespread concern in the United States over the hostages' issue. But it is difficult to see what gains the American administration hopes to secure through the moves it has now announced. It is obvious that such pressures will not secure the release of the hostages, on the contrary, they will provoke the students and their militant allies and weaken the hands of those who favour a rapprochement with the United States on honourable terms. Washington's own allies have their varying perceptions of and responses to the Afghan crisis. They have shown that they cannot be expected to cast in their lot with the United States on Iran, especially when their interests do not necessarily coincide with those of the United States. In such a situation, the administration's strategy to seek a concerted response from Western Europe and Japan might prove unrewarding. In the event of its failure to mobilise support from its allies, the United States might find itself isolated. But most serious are the implications of the American policy for international politics in the region. As could have been anticipated, President Carter's announcement has evoked a hard-line response from Tehran, with Ayatollah Khomeyni exhorting Iranians to be prepared for war. As the confrontation between Washington and Tehran intensifies, not only will the fate of the hostages be relegated to the background but conditions will be created for a test of strength between the two super-powers.

President Carter has already thrown broad hints that he would resort to a naval blockade of Iran if it did not yield to non-military pressures. If this evokes a reaction from the Soviets it would hardly be surprising, especially in view of the fact that they are already reported to have concentrated their troops on Afghanistan's border with Iran. The best U.S. policy would still be one which seeks to strengthen the hands of the moderates in Iran. Violence or threat of violence will only evoke a strong reaction and force the government in Tehran to adopt a hard line so as not to appear to be succumbing to pressure. The need to moderate the stand of the militants holding the hostages is obvious, and those holding a position of responsibility in Iran are well aware of it. But the compulsions of domestic politics and concern for the security of the hostages have prevented the Iranian Government from acting more effectively. The United States could help it by exercising more patience and moderation.

NEPAL

PRIME MINISTER ESCAPES INJURY IN STONING OF CAR

BK201632 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, while returning from a public meeting in Dhulikhel, was pelted with stones by some people chanting pro-multi party slogans at Banepa Bazar Square today. The pelting hit the glass of the car and injured Rashtriya Panchayat member Singha Dhoj Khadka, who was sitting with the prime minister. The prime minister was not injured.

25 POLITICAL EXILES RETURN FOLLOWING AMNESTY

BK201628 Hong Kong AFP in English 1520 GMT 20 Apr 80

[Text] Katmandu, 20 Apr (AFP)--Mr Girija Prasad Koirala, the general secretary of the outlawed Nepali Congress, and 24 other political activists in self-exile in India returned here today following King Birendra's announcement of a general amnesty last Sunday [13 April]. On their arrival, they were accorded a warm welcome by a crowd of 500 people, including B.P. Koirala, G.M. Singh and K.P. Bhattarai--all leaders of the Nepali Congress.

Among others who returned with Mr G.P. Koirala are Prakash Koirala, eldest son of B.P. Koirala, Chakra Banstola, and Beni Bahadur Karki, who were in exile in India. Mr Koirala and Mr Banstola were sentenced to life imprisonment by a special tribunal in absentia for their involvement in a hijacking case in 1974.

There are about 125 more politicians representing different shades of outlawed political parties in self-exile in India, following the dissolution of the first parliamentary system of government in December 1960.

Talking to the press Mr G.P. Koirala described the general amnesty as a gesture of goodwill on the part of the king. Asked how he viewed the role of monarchy in Nepal the Nepali Congress chief said "the monarchy is a unifying and stabilizing factor", but it should not interfere in the day-to-day activities of the country. Mr Koirala had been in exile in India for the past 10 years while Mr Karki had been in exile for the past 20 years.

All the 25 activists of the Nepali Congress who returned here today will launch a nationwide campaign in support of a multi-party in the May 2 referendum in the next couple of days, Mr Koirala said.

SRI LANKA

PRIME MINISTER RETURNS HOME AFTER ZIMBABWE VISIT

BK231057 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Excerpt] The prime minister arrived this morning after attending the Zimbabwe independence celebrations in Salisbury and talks in London with British Prime Minister Thatcher and the British ministers of transport and environment.

On his way to Salisbury Premadasa stopped over in London where he met Mrs Thatcher and held a general discussion on international developments and bilateral issues. He thanked the British prime minister for the 100 million pound sterling grant for the Victoria project. He also extended an invitation to Mrs Thatcher to attend the 50th anniversary celebrations of universal adult franchise in Sri Lanka next year.

DEVELOPMENTS IN SITUATION AT UNIVERSITIES, SCHOOLS

Committee Statement

LD231506 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The central news bureau reports that the Islamic Revolution Central Committee has issued a statement saying some people are reportedly planning to stage demonstrations in the streets north of Tehran University and near the Imam Khomeyni Hospital to exploit the present atmosphere. The Central Committee requests the brothers and sisters to refrain from taking part in these demonstrations and to neutralize plots with full alertness.

Tehran Administration Resigns

LD231712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] According to a central news bureau report, Tehran University's interim administration tendered its resignation today. On the basis of the same report the letter sent by Tehran University's interim administration to the minister of culture and higher education in part says: Tehran University's interim administration, thanks to its own efforts and the assistance given to it by all the academics and students over a period of 14 months succeeded in turning the university into one of the calmest institutions of the realm. Regrettably, in the past few days certain incidents have occurred in the universities for which the interim administration holds responsible those people who, without a careful attention to the problems and the atmosphere of the university, allowed counterrevolution an opportunity to abuse the situation, whereby certain circumstances emerged making it impossible for us to continue our work.

We, therefore, once again declare our mass resignation, and we will soon explain the incidents and give further details on the events, culminating in this resignation, via the mass media, for the information of the Imam and the nation.

6 Killed in Rasht

LD231732 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] According to PARS NEWS AGENCY from Rasht, the clashes that occurred this morning in front of the headquarters of the Rasht mobilization crusade ended after a few hours with the intervention of a group of the Muslim people of Rasht who carried photographs of Imam Khomeyni and shouted "God is great."

Meanwhile, the managing director of the department of health and welfare of Gilan, who had been busy inspecting Rasht hospitals since the beginning of these incidents, said: During today's incidents in front of the mobilization crusade headquarters, 80 people were injured, 6 of whom died as a result of being shot and the extent of their injuries. He said the total number of people killed in Rasht yesterday and today was 12.

Also, today groups went on a march on the streets of Rasht in support of and in opposition to yesterday's and today's clashes.

According to reports received, about 4,000 of the Muslim inhabitants of Nasht gathered in front of the guards corps headquarters expressing their support and listened to a speech by one person. This crowd while shouting "God is great" and "God keep you, the Koran's guards," declared their support for the Nasht Guards Corps.

The same report states that the city of Nasht is calm at present.

Ahvaz Committee Announcement

GF251815 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Announcement issued by Imam Khomeyni relief committee for injured and martyrs of the revolution--no date given; read by announcer]

[Text] In His exalted name. Do not think that those who died fighting for God are dead, for they are alive in the Lord's presence. [Koran]

Once again the hands of the Western and Eastern bloodsuckers emerged from the sleeves of shameless antipeople elements and killed some of our brothers and sisters at the holy campus of Ahvaz Jondi Shapur University. It is a fact that those deceived individuals, followers of the archcriminal Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, carried out his scheme completely by firing on defenseless people who were gathered, unarmed, to hold congregational and unity prayers. It would be no surprise if some pictures of the dirty Pahlavi family were found inside their centers. But U.S. imperialist elements, as well as the socialimperialist elements of the Soviet Union, should realize that martyrdom is the inveterate desire of every Muslim. Yes, these dear sacrificers received ablution in blood and gave their lives while praying. This crime has been recorded in the pages of the history under the names of those shameless elements who created the recent events at Ahvaz University.

All the Muslim and martyr-giving people of Ahvaz, while congratulating the crusher of superpowers, the nation's imam, the dear Khomeyni, and the survivors of the martyrs will participate in the funeral service of those who demanded right. At the same time we demand punishment for those who caused the tragic killings by the Islamic courts of justice.

Ahvaz Corps Communique

GF251821 Abadan Domestic Television Service in Persian 1430 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Communique issued on 23 April by the Ahvaz Corps of the Islamic Revolution Guards]

[Text] Once again, the hands of the criminal United States have shown through the sleeves of its internal elements and have dragged our Muslim fighting masses into a bloodbath. Our people are being dragged into a bloodbath in order to safeguard the stronghold in the battle against imperialism based on the imam's recommendations. This is a sign that U.S. imperialism has been seeding aid and assistance from all opponents and enemies of the Iranian people's resurrection, be they leftists or rightists, and expects to receive such help.

Our so-called supporters of the people, the supporters of our oppressed people, have gone so far that citizens--be they old, young or children--have become the targets of their bullets. They have taken refuge on the rooftop of the college of science and have dragged the people--the unarmed people who are struggling to achieve their objectives--into this bloodbath.

When the radio speaks out against these dictatorial groups and their crimes and asks the fighting Muslim people for help, and when the toiling masses rush in groups to the aid of those who were praying, can one say that it was the corps of the revolution guards who began firing at the people? Or were those bullets that tore apart the bodies of our Muslim people from the Kalashnikovs of the counterrevolutionaries?

A quick glance at the condition of those who have been martyred or wounded will show the fighting masses that these counterrevolutionary subgroups did not hesitate for one moment before firing mercilessly at the oppressed people.

We are warning you, o oppressed and Muslim masses, that along with the U.S. economic blockade and the empty threats of the traitorous Iraqi regime, the pseudoleftist counter-revolutionary groups have been transformed into a fifth column against Iran's Islamic resurrection. They are acting with full devotion toward realizing the desires and wishes of imperialism. Beware! How could you possibly still believe that the hearts of those aberrant organizations, who have deviated from the path of the Islamic republic, could be beating for humanity? When the counterrevolutionaries were inside the university's stronghold they aimed their weapons at people--the same people, both old men and women, who rushed to help those who had been praying there. Can these people be called reactionaries? And these subgroups, who are the servants of the United States, can they be called revolutionaries? Is that 80-year-old man who was beaten and wounded by their sticks and stones a phalangist and reactionary? Are those individuals armed with pistols, machineguns, rocks and sticks, who attacked those unarmed people with whatever they had, revolutionaries and progressives?

This whole incident has revealed a great deal of facts and realities. If these subgroups were honest in their deeds and were fighting against imperialism, why didn't they evacuate their bases of corruption during the past 3 days of moratorium? Didn't they really try to work against and betray the wishes of the Muslim people who wanted to change the university's educational system in compliance with the imam's orders? These people want a corrupt system like that of the shah's era to govern the university. They are following the same path that the criminal archsatan United States is taking in its efforts to inflict heavier blows at the young and underdeveloped body of our revolution.

We ask the people to resist the aggression of these imperialist mercenaries. The people should respect the blood of all our Islamic martyrs and should ask the revolution court to administer harsh punishment to all those who stationed themselves on the roof of the college of science and shot at the people. We ask the people to oppose these henchmen and servants.

In our future communiques we will publish the names of all those who have been martyred or wounded. We will also publish the details of the entire incident so the inhuman and anti-Islamic nature of these subgroups, who are the servants of the United States, can be revealed. May peace and God's mercy be upon all of you. [signed] The Corps of the Islamic Revolution Guards.

Abadan Citizens Remove Students

OW231921 Abadan Domestic Television Service in Persian 1430 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Excerpt] At the invitation of the governor of Abadan--who made a statement regarding the closing and removal of the offices of political groups from the petroleum college--a large number of Abadan citizens, while marching from Mohbahani mosque to the petroleum college yesterday afternoon, began collecting and removing the papers and pamphlets belonging to the political groups. The marchers, who were being led by clergymen and were carrying portraits of the revolution leader and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, chanted various slogans against Eastern and Western imperialism and their affiliated regional elements.

They entered the campus of the college of petroleum at 1830. At this point, Mr Mohammad Rashidian, the representative-elect of the Islamic Parliament from Abadan, and Ayatollah Azaeri Qomi, supervisor of the Khuzestan prosecutors office, in their respective speeches, condemned and denounced the colonialist practices of the East and West. They referred to the resolution issued by the president of the republic and the Revolution Council regarding the evacuation of all offices of the political groups from all universities and centers of higher learning. They both denounced the activities of various political groups at university campuses.

Following these speeches, the crowd moved toward the student dormitories, where they encountered some resistance from a group of students. After some discussion with them, it was decided that representatives of the citizens and several Abadan clergymen would enter the dormitory. This action was also rejected and prevented, but the people were finally able to enter the building. The incident continued and the crowd remained at the campus of the petroleum college until 0200.

According to reports, the college of petroleum was also closed today.

Gilan University 'Calm'

LD232114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] According to a central news bureau report Gilan University was calm today, and last night the people stayed at the university building and guarded it, and in the morning held congregational prayers there. Later they all did their morning exercises and carried out their military training. And today they also cleaned the university area. The report indicates that from last night to this morning the people and the guards corps fully guarded the sensitive parts of the city.

Ahvaz Citizens Demand Trial

LD232200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Our correspondent reports from Ahvaz that the public relations office of the Khuzestan governor-general's office has announced:

Following the clashes at Ahvaz University which caused (?a number of) dead and wounded, today a large number of the Muslim people of Ahvaz gathered at the Hoseyniyeh A'zam Mosque, the hospitals and the Islamic revolution courts of the city and by shouting slogans expressed their disgust and hatred for the conspiracies of American mercenaries and demanded the trial of those arrested, more decisiveness by the courts and an announcement of the exact number of those arrested.

No Classes at Shahr-e Kord

LD232204 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] According to PARS NEWS AGENCY, one of the political groups at the animal husbandry faculty in Shahr-e Kord has not handed over its office, library and headquarters to the responsible officials. According to the same report, no classes were held at the animal husbandry faculty in Shahr-e Kord.

One of the responsible officials of Shahr-e Kord animal husbandry faculty said: Since there are differences of opinion between the various groups regarding the holding of classes it was agreed that a meeting should be held between the university's scientific committee and the Esfahan University chancellor, and considering the short time left in the academic year, the fate of this term will be appraised.

Bani-Sadr Appeal

LD240159 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0130 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The following announcement was issued by the president of our country early this morning:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Muslim people of Iran: Day and night we are working hard to prevent clashes which might lead to bloodshed. You must be the guardians of Islamic order and discipline. You must prevent attacks against the hea quarters of parties and groups. Muslim students, you are the present and future hopes of Iran. You must act according to the decision of the Revolution Council. The universities should be opened and the classes should be resumed.

My brothers and sisters, we must advance in the path of understanding and transform the atmosphere of hatred and animosity into a constructive atmosphere. All the people should respect the constitution and should respect the political freedom of parties and groups. The only strength of your elected president is in your own wish to establish order and security. I request all of you to observe order and security and immediately end the clashes.

[signed] Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the Islamic president of Iran.

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH IRAQ

Comment on Baqir as-Sadr

JN231106 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0710 GMT 23 Apr 80

[From "The Press Review" program]

[Text] Under the headline "This Martyrdom and That Impudence" the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI says:

Despite the fact that the tragic event and the painful incident that has befallen the Islamic world and all forces that believe in the Islamic revolution--Ayatollah Baqir as-Sadr's martyrdom--is a momentous loss, it will prove to be the starting point for launching the Islamic revolution in Iraq.

The magnitude of this tragic event appears clearly through the terror that has spread among all the conspiratorial forces, guided by world imperialism, and among all the forces that are following the U.S. course or are under its influence.

The paper adds: The treacherous silence observed by all the world's news agencies on Ayatollah Baqir as-Sadr's martyrdom and their reportage of the news as merely a rumor are intended to shroud the event in secrecy, so that the imperialists and their agents in Baghdad, such as Michel 'Aflaq and Saddam Husayn, can avoid further defeats. These news agencies did their best to play down the news because they were aware that its dissemination would bring about the explosion of the Iraqi people's anger and would enhance the fedayeen movement within the Iraqi masses. However, the conspiracy of Baqir as-Sadr's assassination will defeat the conspirators, who have tried to affirm that nothing is taking place in Iraq, in the same manner as they tried to say that the shah's era was one of peace and stability.

Addressing the struggling and revolutionary Iraqi masses and the Iraqi Islamic Revolutionary Council, the paper says: We call on you to be alert at this delicate stage, in order to confront the conspiracy against your country and Islam. U.S. imperialism and other greedy oppressors are deluded if they believe they can check the Islamic revolution's course in this area by using all kinds of conspiracies. They have sent the shah to Egypt, Ayatollah Baqir as-Sadr was martyred at the hands of their agents and Soviet, U.S. and Israeli weapons are pouring into Kordestan while the dollar and the ruble are filling the pockets of leftwing elements, who falsely claim a patriotism that is the product of the Soviet Union and the United States.

Even more important is the treason of those factions who are sowing discord, benefiting from the democratic atmosphere that prevails in Iran and replenishing their budgets from the U.S., Soviet and Israeli treasuries. These elements, which claim that they are progressive, are bent on disseminating misleading rumors and fabricating lies to conspire against the revolution. It is evident that these moves are not directed against Iran alone, but also against Islam and all Islamic countries, including Iraq.

The paper says: While denouncing these crimes, we warn the Iraqi people that their silence on these crimes, which are targeted against Islam in Iraq, will cause Iraq to face the same fate as that of the occupied territories in Palestine, despite differences in the methods used to achieve this.

Islamic Council Statement

JN231138 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0825 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text of statement by the "Ulema Council of the Islamic Revolution Command in Iraq" on "martyrdom" of Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr--date not specified]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. From God we come and to Him we return. O sons of our Islamic nation.

O sons of our Muslim Iraqi people, the Ulema Council of the Islamic Revolution Command in Iraq (Majlis al-'Ulama' li-Qiyadat ath-Thawrah al-Islamiyah fi al-'Iraq) mourns the martyrdom of the leader of the Islamic revolution in Iraq, His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, who was arrested with his struggler sister and the Islamic writer by criminal and ignominious parties on 19 Jamad al-Awwal 1400 Hegira, and who was executed on Tuesday night, 21 Jamad al-Awwal 1400 Hegira. The news of his execution was withheld from his people and nation due to fear of the reaction that the execution of the leader of Iraqi Muslims and the emblem of Islamic reconnaissance in Iraq might create.

The Ulema Council of the Islamic Revolution Command in Iraq offers its condolences to the Islamic nation and its leader, Ayatollah Khomeyni, on the loss of the pioneer of thought and Jihad, His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr.

O sons of our mojahedin people. Saddam Husayn's agent regime is now in the throes of death and acts in an hysterical manner, because it has lost all reason for its existence and has taken a stance in solidarity with colonialism.

O sons of our mojahedin people. The leader's martyrdom is a torch that lights the path of sacrifice and martyrdom. Following this path of jihad is the only way to topple the regime of agentry and humiliation and to champion the mission for which he sacrificed his life.

Proceed on the road to jihad, the road to sacrifice and the road that will lead us to God.

[Signed] The Ulema Council of the Islamic Revolution Command in Iraq.

Iraqi Liberation Army Statement

JN231946 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The Islamic Revolutionary Army for the Liberation of Iraq has issued a statement on the martyrdom of his eminence the mujahidan Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr urging the soldiers, officers and NCO's of the Iraqi Army not to obey the orders of the treacherous Ba'thist officers.

The statement also calls on the Iraqi Army and people to observe tomorrow, Thursday 24 April, as a day of mourning to express solidarity with other Muslims on the occasion of the martyrdom of His Eminence Ayatollah as-Sadr and his honorable sister at the hands of the Ba'thist executionaries in Iraq.

Bahraini Group on As-Sadr

JN232143 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1855 GMT 23 Apr 80

[From "Today's Iraq Searches for Husayn" program]

[Text] The Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain [Al-Jabha al-Islamiyah li Tahrir al-Bahrayn] has issued a statement in Beirut firmly condemning the crime of murdering his eminence the mujahidan Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr. The statement says:

In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with God. Of them some have completed their vow to the extreme, and some still wait but they have never changed their determination in the least. [koranic verse]

Masses of our Muslim people, at the time when our nation stands with firm will and pride to counter imperialism and Zionism, the agent Ba'th Party in Iraq commits the ugliest crime ever known in modern history by assassinating knowledge, piety and righteousness, by arresting and murdering one of the best Muslims, his eminence the the mujahid Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, as well as a group of believer men and women, thus exposing its ugly Zionist face and its agentry for the U.S. imperialism.

As we congratulate the deceased martyr for gaining the exalted medal of martyrdom in the service of God as well as for his great steadfastness in the face of the resentful Ba'thist tyrant. We will not ignore the U.S. fingers that are moving the despicable agent Saddam Hussayn.

The Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain, as it condemns this crime, reminds our masses of the alliance between the Ba'thists and Al Khalifah, which further exposes the two tyrant regimes' agentry for U.S. imperialism. The prophet of God, may God's peace rest upon him, told the truth when he said that atheists belong to one creed.

We ask our masses to:

1. Observe tomorrow, Thursday, as a day of public mourning: close all the stores. We ask the youth to write down the names of all those who do not adhere to this so they can get their just punishment when it is time to settle accounts. Those who deviate from the Islamic nation subject themselves to what God's prophet said: Those who deviate from the one group fall in hell.

2. Gather at mosques and at mourning rites to read the opening chapter of the Koran. We ask women to gather at mourning rites that are held specially for women. Let the readings of the opening chapter be according to a wide-scale program. Let the first reading of the opening chapter be held in the capital and let the inhabitants of the villages gather at the reading of the opening chapter in the capital and afterwards let more readings of the opening chapter be held at the villages so you can show your enemies your solidarity and the unity of your word in the confrontation against the unity of the enemies and their gathering against Islam.

3. During the readings of the opening chapter, deliver speeches denouncing atheism and oppression. Also deliver revolutionary poems calling for the continuation of the same path of the great martyr and for the revolution against the oppressors. For the best gift you may offer to the martyr, as he lies in his new palace in heaven, is to continue on his path to face all oppressors.

In conclusion, the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain vows that it will take revenge for the martyr's blood on the oppressors, the allies of U.S. imperialism and the agents of world Zionism. God grants victory and success.

[Signed] The Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain, Beirut

Commemoration March

LD240742 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0613 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The following announcement has been issued by the Revolution Council of the Iranian Islamic Republic in connection with honoring the martyrdom of His Eminence Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The Revolution Council of the Iranian Islamic Republic invites all sectors of the nation to pay tribute to the status of the martyred faqih and mujahid, His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, and his martyred, mujahid sister, by participating in the memorial service tonight arranged on behalf of the imam of the nation at Imam Khomeyni mosque.

Meanwhile, an announcement has been issued by the Revolution Council in connection with the march scheduled for tomorrow:

Noble and religious people of Iran, as you know, His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr and his dear learned sister recently achieved the high status of martyrdom at the hands of the agents of the American-directed Ba'thist regime of Iraq. In this horrendous action Saddam Husayn was assigned by Carter to extinguish the light of Islam but, as was the case with his criminal forefathers, Husayn did not know that God's will has been set on providing the oppressed of the earth with an imam and leader while at the same time bringing disgrace and shame in this world and painful torment in the next world to the mercenary oppressors.

Thus, the Revolution Council of Iran, in connection with the martyrdom of the 'alameh mujahid, His Eminence Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, and his dear sister, invites the struggling citizens of Tehran, in order to express their hatred for and aversion to the agents of the American directed Ba'thist regime of Iraq, and in order to stress their support for the struggling, Muslim people and the freedom-loving and Muslim army of Iraq, which is ready to rise to liberate the country and the Iraqi nation from the burden of imperialism and Zionism, to stage a march toward Tehran University tomorrow, Friday. It is hoped that with your extensive participation in this march you will reinfoce Islam's front beyond the borders of Iran and cause disappointment and hopelessness for imperialism and Zionism and their international agents.

Ad-Da'wah Party Message

JN240815 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text of cable from the Islamic Ad-Da'wah Party to Imam Khomeyni on the martyrdom of Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr--date not given]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. Your Eminence, our exalted master, leader of the Islamic nation, Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, may God lengthen your shadow:

On the martyrdom of the martyr mojahed, His Eminence Ayatollah Haj Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, and his oppressed sister Bint al-Huda, may God have great mercy on their souls. The Islamic Ad-Da'wah party would like to offer its sincerest condolences on this catastrophe and tragic loss.

Your Eminence the Imam, we listened passionately to your esteemed orders, which you gave in your numerous calls and in your address to the nation announcing the death of this great theologian.

We announce to Your Eminence that we will exert all our efforts in order to be answerable to God Almighty and Your Eminence that we will turn the day of the atheist Ba'th and its colonialist masters into darkness.

Indeed, the blows being dealt by our heroic mujahedin are giving sleepless nights to and sapping the strength of this traitorous clique.

Our Master the Imam, we would like to renew our allegiance to Your Eminence and ask God Almighty to make us successful in order to comply with your rightly guided orders.

We support you and are confident that God the Almighty will make us successful.

God will certainly aid those who aid his (cause). [Koranic verse]

[signed] The Islamic Ad-Da'wah Party

Radio Comments on Bakhtiar Visit

GF231258 Abadan National Iranian Oil Company Radio in Arabic 1845 GMT 22 Apr 80

[From "The News and Comment" program]

[Text] AP has reported that former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar visited Iraq at the Iraqi Government's invitation. Speaking at a press conference, Bakhtiar said: An economic boycott of Iran and military intervention against Iran are not in the interests of the United States. Military intervention by the United States would result in many casualties.

Bakhtiar also said he disagrees with the Islamic Republic of Iran. He declared: We are seeking the downfall of the Islamic Republic in Iran. Khomeyni is not fit to lead 45 million Iranians.

What is the meaning of this visit by a member of the shah's regime--whom the Baghdad regime used to describe as an agent--and his meeting with the agent rulers in Baghdad? It means that birds of a feather flock together.

Call to Jihad

JN232153 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1750 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] O Muslims everywhere! O noble people of Iraq: The tribal and brutal move of the Ba'thist authority in Baghdad and its killing of the great Islamic intellectual, Ayatollah Seyyed Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr, and his honored sister is not only considered a challenge to Islamic feeling and the ideology of the nation, but is a challenge of the will of all the zealous Muslims in Iraq, regardless of their intellectual and religious loyalties.

This condemned move has placed the Iraqis before two options only: Either announce jihad, using their money and souls to topple this crusader and brutal regime and restore Iraq to the Muslim nation's ranks, or suffer from submission and subservience forever if they remain silent over this condemned murder which has been committed by a criminal who is mocking the dignity, ideology and principles of the people. If they remain silent they will lose both this life and the life in heaven.

The history of the Iraqi people clearly reveals that they will not remain silent with regard to injustice and will not let an oppressor and criminal like Saddam at-Tikriti ridicule their faith and attack their freedom and holy place. The Iraqis are the creature of the heroic epics in the An-Najaf revolution against the British in 1918 and the heroic revolution of the 1920's which shook the British crown.

Thus, those who are familiar with the great history of these people, the nature of these people, their great enthusiasm for their religion and their strong rejection of injustice and oppression, those who are aware of the reality of these people fully understand that they will choose the road of dignity, although it is a difficult one. Modern history will shortly record the great jihad of the Iraqi people.

The U.S. weapons used by Saddam at-Tikriti and the members of the ruling tribe against the zealous Iraqi people will not change anything. The Iraqi people, whose sons have been brought up in accordance with the principles of dignity and freedom, will not allow criminal Saddam to trample their dignity and pride. If the gang of the dirty pharaoh of Iraq thinks that its dependence on the Jewish Rabbi (Satun Khuduri) and the crusader agent Michel 'Aflaq will protect it against the revolution of revenge for the sake of the blood of the great martyr Muhammad Baqir as-Sadr and his oppressed sister, then the members of the gang are deceiving themselves.

The banners of revenge against Saddam and his tribe will fill all Iraq. A government which considers the Jewish rabbi as a holy person, appoints a crusader agent as an adviser and godfather and persecutes a great Muslim leader in Iraq, a government which adopts such methods and policy is not worthy of ruling Iraq even for a single day.

O defenders of dignity, take revenge. O you who reject oppression, ignite the revolution. Destroy the throne of the brutal gang before it is too late. God will certainly aid those who aid his cause; for verily God is full of strength, exalted in might, able to enforce His will. [koranic verse]

Report on Deportees

LD240420 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] The Ba'th Government of Iraq continues to expel Iranians from that country. Colonel Yahyani, the commander of the gendarmerie in Kermanshah region yesterday told a PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent that during the past 24 hours 951 more people have been expelled from Iraq. With this last group the total number of people expelled from Iraq to Iran has reached 26,478.

UNREST, VIOLENCE CONTINUE IN PROVINCES

Sanandaj Garrison Offer to Civilians

LD031154 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0919 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Dear listeners, this statement has been issued by the Sanandaj 28th Division:

In His exalted name, it is brought to the attention of the honorable Muslim people of Sanandaj that:

1. All the personnel of the Kordestan 28th Division are ready to sacrifice their blood for the nation of Iran and dear Islam, as they have proved many times before. And now, they announce that they (?are offering) to present their own blood to civilian casualties at any hospital in the city. And the division is also [words indistinct] prepared to assist people for their immediate necessities. Because safety and comfort of the nation of Iran are more important (?to the division than our own needs).

2. We ask the communications office of Sanandaj, which has cut off the connection between the garrison and the city, to reconnect us quickly so that the garrison can reply to the immediate needs of the city. Otherwise, the officials of the communications office are responsible to reply to the nation of Iran.

[signed] Sanandaj 28th Division.

Qasemlu on Politics, Security

LD2314355 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 17 Apr 80 p 10

[Second part of unnamed correspondent interview with Kordestan Democratic Party (KDP) leader Abdolrahman Qasemlu: "The Protection of the Borders is Under the Sole Jurisdiction of the Central Government"--date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] On 25.10.58 [15 January 1980] Sheykh Ezzedin Hoseyni accused you of disarming and looting an army column between Miandowab and Bukan and said that the KDP prefers the superiority of its own group to the interests of the Kurdish people. What is your view?

[Answer] If anyone gives no thought at all to superiority, it is the KDP. First, the charge is inaccurate, since the KDP is indissolubly bound up with the Kurdish people. Look at the election results and see how in Mahabad, where we did not hold one single election meeting, 82 percent of the people voted for us, and in Piranshahr 91 percent did the same.

[Question] You always express approval of Sheykh Ezzedin Hoseyni, but when the Muslim People's Republican Party seized the radio-TV station in Tabriz, Sheykh Ezzedin supported them. How do you explain this?

[Answer] It is as leader of the Democratic Party that I cooperate with Sheykh Ezzedin. Our cooperation is based on the fact that he is head of the representative delegation of the Kurdish people, and we cooperate within that framework. Apart from this, I am not responsible for what he says and does. Of course, we share common views on many issues; what divides us most is the manner in which we work and face problems. I used to consider him an impartial person, and wanted him to stay that way and not engage actively in group operations, and for all groups to support him.

KDP Policy in Majles

[Question] It is clear that a number of your representatives will enter the Majles. What will the general policy of your candidates in the Majles be?

[Answer] Our policy is based on the same four principles: struggle against imperialism, struggle for freedom and democracy in Iran, struggle for autonomy and struggle for the working class.

[Question] You know that the guards corps, which is made up of people from all over Iran, is a principle of the constitution. What must be done to create mutual understanding between the guards and the Kurdish Peshmerga?

[Answer] I think that this is very easy; the Kurdish people's demands should be met. Then, if there are to be guards, they can be recruited from among the peshmerga. If the Esfahan Guards come not with helicopters and tanks for war but as guests, see what a welcome they will get.

Our views are clear: We acknowledge in the six-point plan that the army and the protection of the borders lies within central government jurisdiction, the maintenance of local security should be in the hands of the people themselves. If this does not happen, tensions will emerge and there will be a confrontation.

Qorveh Governor on Clashes

LD231800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] According to a central news bureau report, the governor of the provincial town of Qorveh, in Kordestan, described the situation in the town as calm. He also announced that the clashes 2 days ago involving the assailants and members of Hamadan Guards Corps and Hamadan and Qorveh army and gendarmerie forces, culminated in a retreat by the assailants. All the deployment positions of the counterrevolutionary forces and also the rural district of Dehgodan, which was the main base of the Democratic Party of Kordestan and of the assailants in the region, fell into the hands of the guards corps and of the Islamic Republic's army forces in Hamadan.

The Qorveh governor added: In the course of the Qorveh clashes 2 days ago, three outlaws were killed, a number were captured while three Hamadan guards were martyred.

The governor thanked the Qorveh combatant forces and zealous inhabitants and called on them to remain vigilant and not allow individuals betraying the realm and nation to hatch fresh plots. He warned plotters that they would be crushed with utmost force.

Commander on Sanandaj 'Siege'

LD231828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] The following statement addressed to the nation, has been issued by the commander of the army ground forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran tonight:

In His exalted name. The noble and fighting nation of Iran. As you know, according to the contract signed between the good-will mission and the honorable people of Sanandaj, it was agreed that the Revolution Guards would leave Sanandaj for the garrison; that the defense of the airport, the officers club and the radio and television station in Sanandaj be assigned to the army; that armed groups would refrain from openly carrying arms; and that the security of the town be entrusted to the police.

However, despite these commitments, unlawful armed groups opened fire on the airport, the officers' club and the radio and television station. They then attacked the officers club, cut water, power and telephone lines and did not even allow the wounded to be evacuated.

The water in the club's pond, which was the only life support for the occupants of the club in the past 2 days, has now run dry. The personnel are extremely thirsty.

Under these circumstances and due to the lack of overland access to the club and the radio and television station and the airport, the army has been forced to defend the installations. Due to the firing error factor [zarib-e khata-ye tir] of the army helicopters, the occupants of the surrounding houses have been advised to evacuate their homes immediately.

The ground forces have not fired on the city or people's homes, but buildings adjacent to the club, from which the assailants were firing, using RPG-7's and 106 mm [recoilless] rifles and mortars were fired on by the army.

The reason for the siege on the officers club is that the assailants will not release 12 wounded soldiers.

The army is in full control of the situation. If the people of Sanandaj invited the army to preserve law and order, it would sincerely accept the offer and would undertake security of the city provided unlawful armed groups departed.

[Signed] The commander of the ground forces of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Brigadier General Fallahi

Khuzestan Governor General Report

LD232104 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent, Seyyed Mohammad Gharazi, the governor general of Khuzestan, met Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, at the latter's residence. In this meeting he submitted a report on Khuzestan's current affairs to the imam.

At the end of this meeting, the governor general of Khuzestan said to the PARS NEWS AGENCY correspondent regarding the recent incidents in Ahvaz:

Hojjat ol-Eslam [name indistinct] performed the noon and afternoon prayers at Ahvaz University, as he had previously promised. During the sermon he reminded the listeners that there was a possibility of a plot to disturb the peace during the prayers. Before his speech was finished, one of the political groups attacked the people. Six people died and more than 150 were wounded during the shooting.

Mohammad Gharazi, the governor general of Khuzestan, called this political group the remnants of the deposed shah's regime and its followers. He said: The people arrested 600 of them, handed them over to the revolution court and demanded that they be punished.

Kordestan Division Statement

LD232118 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] Kordestan's 28th Division tonight issued a statement addressed to the inhabitants of Sanandaj as follows:

In His exalted name. Honorable citizens of Sanandaj: With the commitment which we have to the struggling Iranian nation we call on Almighty God to bear witness that we will tell you nothing but the truth. Therefore, permit us to inform you, of the incidents in Sanandaj as follows:

On 18 April 1980 a military unit entered Sanandaj in order to move to the border to replace a border unit. Renegade armed groups by inciting students barred the way to the military column which, in order to avoid bloodshed, returned to Sanandaj airport and, in repeated statements, informed everyone that the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran was the guarantor of the independence and territorial integrity of the country and should be able to move freely in the region. We reminded everyone that the army never wished to see anyone injured, and we requested that no opposition should be displayed. However, subservient political groups sharply stepped up their propaganda and demagogy and declared that they would not allow the column to pass through.

2. On 18 April 1980 another statement was issued by the division telling the people of the facts to the effect that the political groups had lost their popular support and that by preventing the movement of the military column wished to foment fratricide and to make propaganda capital. Once again we said that the army's mission was entrusted to it by 35 million Iranians and that a few renegade political groups should not be able to block the path of the army.

3. On 19 April 1980 once again a statement was issued candidly declaring that our country's territorial integrity was in jeopardy because of the puppet Iraqi Ba'th Government, and we proposed that we should put aside domestic differences and should together march to the border. But since the political groups with their whole being love to see the blood of innocent and oppressed people shed so that they can thereby attain their foul designs, they turned this down. We even wished to use the good offices of the city governor to tell them that barring the movement of the Army of the Islamic Republic was tantamount to violating national sovereignty and dealing a blow at the country's territorial integrity. Once again we made it plain to them that when the army was unable to pass freely through its country and proceed to defend its borders by the command of the nation and its elected president then that portion of the country would no longer belong to Iran and that would be tantamount to blatant secessionism; and that was an issue which the Muslims and combatant Kurdish people strongly abhored and we knew that the Kurdish people were ready to sacrifice their lives for Iran and its sacred revolution. But once again the puppet political groups did not consent.

4. On 20 April 1980, after a 4-day delay, the column of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran deployed in the airport, in order to avoid bloodshed and a clash with the armed groups within the city and to prevent the killing of innocent people, moved along a dirt byroad by the side of the city toward its place of mission.

Regrettably, however, the unlawfully armed groups, making use of the bushes by the roadside and the buildings on the outskirts of the city, launched an attack on the column and martyred and wounded a number of our homeland's soldiers who, taking their lives in their hands, were proceeding to the border in order to defend the country's independence and the Islamic Republic. In the afternoon of the same day, in order to widen the clashes and to drag the fighting into the city itself, counterrevolutionaries launched an attack on the division's units deployed at the officers club, the television center and the airport, where they had been stationed for the past several months after the withdrawal of the Revolution Guards and inflicted casualties on the army, and simultaneously cut off the garrison's telephone link with the city in order to destroy any possibility of reaching an understanding and reconciliation. By the way, they did succeed in this. In order to complete their nefarious actions they cut off the power supply to the garrison and the living quarters of the military personnel in order to compound as much as possible the intensity of the tragedy.

5. On 22 April 1980, in a communique, we called on the puppet armed groups to allow an ambulance carrying an assistant doctor to pass through in order to bring medical help and water to the soldiers encircled inside the officers club, to stop shooting and harassing them. But, unfortunately, once again they did not agree and impounded the ambulance, the medicine and the water, took the assistant doctor and driver as hostages and intensified the fighting.

Therefore, by explaining in detail the said incident you may notice that we have accurately described to the people the plans of the counterrevolution and that we have taken all the necessary steps in order to prevent bloodshed. But, unfortunately, you now see that a number of poor and innocent inhabitants of the city and the wronged soldiers have become victims of the plots and warmongering activities of the renegade political groups. Once again we declare that these groups are puppets and do not love the Iranian people, particularly the meek Kurdish people. On the surface, however, donning popular garb, they wish to serve their imperialist masters and once again to drag our country into subservience to either East or West. Let us beware and be vigilant in order to guard our independence and sacred revolution.

Once again we decisively declare that we will defend our homeland's borders to the last drop of our blood by relying on God. Thanks to the support of the Iranian nation, we will not allow dear Kordestan to become the hunting ground of those groups which have no other aim but serving the world-devouring imperialists and are bent on endangering our country's territorial integrity. Peace be upon you.

[Signed] Kordestan's 28th Division

[Dated] 23 April 1980

Chuqahasman Oil Explosion

LD241026 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0938 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] PARS NEWS AGENCY, quoting the commander of the Kermanshah region gendarmerie, reports that at 2200 last night a group of counterrevolutionaries blew up the oil pipeline at Chuqahasman between Naft Shahr and Khan Leyli.

According to the same report, repair work on the pipeline was begun immediately by the Naft Shahr oil workers and the pipeline was repaired. The governor of Qasr-e Shirin told a PARS correspondent that two mines had been planted on the Sumar road yesterday. One of them was blown up by gendarmerie officers and the other one was seized intact by the officers.

The Qasr-e Shirin governor added that yesterday 207 people were expelled from Iraq through the Khosravi border crossing and 384 people were expelled through the Sumar crossing. according to information, the Iraqi Ba'thist regime continues to collect Iranians residing in various Iraqi cities in order to expel them.

Paveh Clash

LD241028 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0945 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] According to a PAR NEWS AGENCY report from Kermanshah, a clash occured yesterday afternoon between armed assailants and the Paveh Islamic Revolution Guards Corps near this city. The Revolution Guards managed to capture an automatic rifle and two Kalashnikov rifles from the assailants. The Kermanshah gendarmerie commander confirmed this report and added that the assailants [words indistinct].

PRESIDENT BANI-SADR GIVES RADIO INTERVIEW

LD212316 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1705 GMT 21 Apr 80

[Interview with Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr on 21 April; interview not identified; location not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr President, you are aware that certain issues have arisen in relation to the universities over the past few days, resulting in clashes in many of the universities throughout the country. [Words indistinct] interference of ordinary people in universities has caused concern among the people. Certain developments have occurred in provincial cities, and even some people have been injured. And the people are disturbed by these events.

It appears that, according to some reports, there are also certain plots afoot in light of the fact that a document was placed at the disposal of the PARS NEWS AGENCY indicating flagrant interference by America and the CIA relating to recent problems in Iran.

In view of the article you published in the ENQELAB-E ESLAMI newspaper yesterday, which is the best testimony that the people ought to be put in the picture to enable them to decide more clearly, we would like to ask you to give us further information about the development.

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. There was a telephone call from the ETTELA'AT newspaper today [words indistinct] report of my resignation. [?There were rumors) in provincial cities and in Kordestan Province to the effect that I had resigned. That here are plots as you said, afoot, is correct. There are people who think they can prevent me from doing my job. Wherever we try to do something they raise an obstacle. If you carefully examine the [word indistinct] to which you referred, many points will be clarified for you and our people.

Let us take the date of the documents 6 August 1979. This indicates the fact that Carter's aide had specified America's operational plan in Iran. There are several points to consider here. First, the state department has been authorized to act. This is the first point. Another point concerns influencing the course of developments in Iran. One of the characteristics of movements and the spy operations of the CIA is that they try, through infiltration both to achieve the leadership of a movement and to impose on it an ideology suitable to America.

There are many books written on this matter, on various movements. One of them is a pamphlet by (Malak ibn Nabi) which is about the Islamic world movements, showing how American infiltrates them to adjust their ideologies to its own interests. The appearance of things remains unchanged, but gradually their contents are changed in such a way as to make one do things as America wants.

Then it is said that whatever it is done should be coordinated with the Department of Defense and the CIA and other organizations, and that, whenever necessary, things should be done bearing in mind the view that the shah of Iran has expressed in his recent consultations.

So the former shah has not been idle there, and he is not idle now. He is Mr. Carter's adviser in creating trouble in Iran. The second important point is that point it was part of the plan to create tension in relations with neighbors and to exploit it for the implementation of their designs. That is why it says: The President has further pointed out that it is necessary to exploit the atmosphere of mistrust and suspicion which exists between Iran and its neighbors--the President, of course, meaning Mr. Carter. Well, who are our neighbors?

In the north we have Russia; in the east--the northeast--Afghanistan; and in the west there is Iraq, which has been busy causing trouble in the country from the beginning. [words indistinct] what is now happening in the west of our country is not (?unlike what) Mr Carter has designed for our country.

The next point is that the U.S. President says that the end of political support for Khomeyni's Islamic Republic, particularly by the Soviet Union, would certainly weaken the foreign policy positions of the Khomeyni regime.

So what is clear is that following their line of action prepared in consultation with the shah, the Americans are preparing another 19 August [19 August 1953 overthrow of the Mosaddeq government]: intense domestic turmoil followed by the establishment of a fascist, a dictator. We therefore see that America's policy is directed toward collusion with its rival superpower with regard to Iran.

The third point is that it has been stressed that since it is not possible to predict developments in Iran, and in order to control these developments, it is necessary to establish contacts with all the leaders of all political organizations and leanings, without exception, including the minorities, racial or religious, and extremist groups that are able to instigate armed resistance against the Khomeyni regime.

Now, you can see the same thing in what is being done by our western neighbor. Suddenly they open fire on our army in Kordestan and spread the rumor that I have resigned so that they can create despair among the Kurdish people and thus entice them to submit to those groups who want to block the path of Khomeyni's regime through armed resistance.

The fourth point is that, and I quote: Considering the delicate nature of these operations, the President--meaning Carter--opposes any contact with the religious leaders or political leaders, the Khomeyni entourage, members of the opposition or high-ranking Iranian commanders without prior consultation with the chief of the CIA.

This means that these operations should be under the supervision of the CIA. This reminds you of the operations which were once carried out by the CIA in Iran.

Well, this is the (?document). Now, look at some of the events which have taken place in Iran. You can see how close they are to the guidelines which have been set forth by [word indistinct].

My main work in the academic field has been methodology. The books I have written are the results of 20 years of research, experiment and action. I had no need for this document. I have often warned and have set out the main lines of America's interests in Iran. If you look through the articles I have written and published in the form of books and articles, if you study that part which is about the American policies in Iran and if you compare them to these current policies you will see that on the basis of certain pieces of evidence I have clearly set forth the main lines of American policies in Iran. It is on the basis of these things that I have become ready for the presidency.

(?All those) who are playing all these games, imaging that I will resign, will be disappointed. First, some 11 million people voted for me. Second, even those who did not vote for me are in agreement with me today. Why should a president who is backed by the nation resign? Would he resign his responsibility? This is not possible. Would he resign at a time of danger and abandon his homeland to the vagaries of events only to save himself? [words indistinct] furthermore, I have a responsibility in relation to my God and my religion--a responsibility which prompts me to stand firm and (?save) this homeland and this revolution. I am confident that, God willing, I will succeed, given the support of the imam and the nation.

As for the students, they should realize, given the plans and policies that Mr Carter has defined, that creating chaos and disorder and throwing the country into turmoil are in no way in the interests of our revolution. It is certainly against it.

This is the first thing. The second point is that a man is human, he is not divine. It means that man's ability for work is limited. You accompanied me in my trip to Khuzestan. It is easy for me to work 20 hours a day, but it can only be 20 hours--I cannot work any more. Also, I cannot see to 100,000 different things at the same time. Put yourself in the place of a person who wakes up in the morning and who has to see to many things until midnight: From the four corners of the country one person telephones to say that an accident has taken place there; another says they have seized such and such a place in Kordestan; yet another says they have said this and that in another place. This busy man expects at least those who regard themselves as supporters of this government not to create more problems for him and to support him.

Before I left for Khuzestan, the chancellor of Melli University, Dr Taqizadeh, telephoned me to say that Muslim students want to close the universities--on the basis of the sayings of the imam who has said that the universities should be transformed--and want to bring about a cultural revolution. I told him--Ahmad Aqa, the son of imam, was also sitting there--first of all, the revolution cannot be closed down. We can prepare a project and carry it out. Second, this will not stop at the level of the universities alone. It will develop into other areas and under the present conditions this is not in Iran's interest.

Then we left for Khuzestan. During my absence these operations began. When I returned and went there [presumably the Revolution Council] on Friday morning, I said: Well, what is the purpose of closing down the universities?

In the Revolution Council it was said that certain groups have organized their headquarters in the universities and, as a result, have virtually transformed those places of academic work; lessons and such things have been eliminated. I said: Well, if this is the reason for closing down the universities, we can evacuate the headquarters of these groups and prevent them from closing down the lessons in the universities.

It was said: How will this be done? I said: We will tell them that they have 48 hours to evacuate their headquarters. If they do not do so, we will invite the people to come to the university and the people will ask them to leave without any clashes or fighting and with revolutionary order and discipline. No one will stand up to the people.

This was approved. It was unanimously approved. We went to the imam and he, too, approved it. He said: It has always been my view to do this. It was decided that the Friday imam should also refer to these points in his Friday prayers sermon--that the decisions of the council should be carried out.

It is not necessary for all the people to be in agreement with every decision. The job of the leadership, in the light of the information it receives and identifies as best, is to adopt certain decisions. If we had a situation in which any decision that was not acceptable to one group of people was ignored, argued about and quarrelled over, then we would have a country without an administration. A country without an administration will certainly fall. This is axiomatic.

Since we know that the nation is behind us and that we are certain that we have the ability to solve the problems--and the problems are not incapable of solution--we shall firmly insist that the decisions of the Revolution Council be implemented without fail. Those who regard themselves as supporters of this Islamic regime should comply with these decisions even if they do not agree with them, for it is imperative that all of them should comply with these decisions. They must comply with these decisions.

We cannot sacrifice the country for one region or for one problem. The cultural revolution is not a new issue or one about which we can say whether we agree with it or not now that it has been discussed. All of us are united in our goals. Even in the days after the victory of the revolution this issue was raised. It was said that certain groups are doing this or that in the universities, and this project was discussed--that we should first implement the cultural revolution and then open the universities. But as it was decided that every activity in the country should be resumed, it was said that the universities should also open.

In our view, this issue is a fundamental one. One section of the constitution of the Islamic government is about the cultural revolution and cultural [word indistinct]. However, it will be a unique thing in the world if we can carry it out in an orderly fashion. For a revolution to take place with the least degree of disorder, with the least number of casualties and with maximum results is not a bad thing. It is not necessary for us to turn everything upside down in a revolution. No, we can do certain things without turning everything upside down.

This is why I asked and continue to ask all groups to respect the decisions of the Revolution Council. The night before last a number of students came here and agreed. Today also pishgam [pioneers or forerunners] students came.

It was decided that they should also go and talk to the minister of science. They had no objection to the evacuation of certain headquarters from the universities. Therefore, we hope that tomorrow morning the issue will be resolved in a proper way and that the university may continue its normal course.

This matter is not only important from the viewpoint of the universities. It is also important from a national point of view, because it shows that this country has a government and a leadership. It is not that the government is not able to carry out those things which are within the scope of the government's actions. When this was established, of course, the komeleh in Sanandaj will also realize that it is facing a strong government which has the backing of all the people, and that it should not try to confront a government which is supported by a nation.

[Question] Mr President, you referred to the issue of people's votes. You said that 11 million people voted for you. This, of course, does not mean that the rest of the people who did not vote for you will not support you. To prove one thing does not disprove all other alternatives. It is possible that more than 11 million people support you. However, it has often happened that when I am in your office many telephone calls are made by the people who say that they do not like to see the look of despair on Mr Bani-Sadr's face. After the message you gave on television concerning the economic blockade, the people who had seen your face apparently did not think you were very happy and they expressed their anxiety. They repeatedly told us that you, who are close to the president,. should tell him: We all support you. If you will ask it, all of us will come and announce our support gain. Why doesn't the president discuss his problems with us to make use of our force in order to solve the problems?

Alongside this issue is another issue, namely, if this power of the people is not properly led and organized, and if they wish to act in a different way and in a scattered form, the result will be the shortcomings and clashes that you are now witnessing. All the people come to show their support for you--this causes clashes and may lead to a civil war. This is why I wanted to see what you would say about leading this power and the potential of the people.

[Answer] You referred to two things. You said that it is not clear that the people who have not voted for me may not support me. No, I said that we regularly take samples of public opinion, about once a week. Even those who did not vote (for me) are in agreement with me today. If elections were held today, many more people would vote for me than in the last election. This is a different issue.

However, concerning the fact that they did not find me happy that night, well, I was tired and my face was a tired face, not a despairing face. A tired face is different from a despairing face. I never have a look of despair on my face. I am full of hope, because our nation is a strong nation, it is not a weak nation. Those people who come and engage in clashes--I cannot regard as my supporters. You cannot come and, while saying that you support me, do something which I do not like. A supporter is a person who, for example, if tomorrow we needed him and announced that he should come he will come, with revolutionary and Islamic order and discipline. He should not go there before being asked to go with stones and bricks and clubs to attack, to defend himself, to beat others and to be beatn and cause injuries and deaths. We cannot consider such a person as a supporter of this government. A supporter of the government is one who observes order and discipline. This was the first thing.

The second thing is that difficulties will not be solved in a day or two. However, some people believe--some of them of course less than others--that everything we say is like magic or that, God forbid, we have become like God--we say be and it is. No, that is God's work. We cannot do that. In the case of the army we made some promises, but time is needed so that these projects can be prepared and put into operation. We are close to fulfilling this promise. We have acted upon what we have promised.

Now, concerning agricultural land, we have made some promises and the law has been approved, but the law has to be implemented. In other areas, too, we are busy acting. However, I do not involve myself too much with minor events. I know that in an evolving, revolutionary society there will be clashes and tensions and some people may get killed. I know all that. The issue is: Should I busy myself with all these minor things, despite their importance, or should I busy myself with changing those essential things so that those who seek to weaken the revolution will not be able to enslave Iran again. These are the essential things and they cannot be done in a day or two.

Some people have come together, held discussions and evolved a few principles. One is that they should, directly or indirectly, prevent us from doing our job.

Another is that they should spread propaganda, among the people to the effect that my policy is different from that of the imam, (?thus separating us from each another).

The next is that the majles, which will be elected, should be constituted in such a way as to be placed against me when the right moment arrives.

The fourth point is that when all this is achieved they should--either before or after the majles has been elected--either in such a way as to make me resign or fall.

Well, how am I going to tell all this to the people? That is why I tell the people: You should elect those representatives who are in harmony with the president--otherwise it will not be a matter of my falling. That does not require all these efforts--one terrorist can do the job.

The issue concerns the safeguarding of the revolution and the existence of the country. That is why the safeguarding of the revolution and the country's existence cannot tolerate all this disharmony, this confrontation. If we were all united, we would of course be able to remove all the difficulties. That is why, when we went to see the imam last time, he said that cooperation, mutual assistance, understanding and coordination are religious obligations.

The country's situation is clear, at any rate. It is not the sort of situation in which a group of people can create a development similar to that which was brought about in China for the Chinese president--to bring me down with these efforts. I am not Liu Shaoqi.

[Words indistinct] I have been in the service of the revolution from my childhood till now. In any case, I have been elected by the people. I am not a weak person and these games cannot undermine me. [Words indistinct] work that has to be done today must be done. [Words indistinct] hence, the people ought not be anxious, not in the least. They ought only to be confident that this man and this revolution, in order that they should succeed, must rely on the confidence of the people. This is what the people ought to think of. And, of course, I am not a person to hide things.

Whenever the result is known and it seems necessary that I should tell the people about something, I shall do so immediately. I am not a man to utter words in secrecy. Hence, the people, if they would listen to me, should not lend their ears to these rumors. They should open their eyes and ears to facts about their country. The continuation of the true cultural resurgence which began with our revolution depends on this: The man who consumes must become a productive man. This is the type of revolution that we should pursue. If we succeed in this, of course, our educational system will also change; without it, the educational system cannot be changed.

[Question] My last question is related, in any case, to the leadership of this [word indistinct] and this people's force regarding the recent issue of the universities. With regard to the issue of the universities, what should the people really do from now on. From the viewpoint of domestic and international issues, and while paying attention to the existing issues at present, is it advisable that rallies should take place? Is it advisable that people should rise to support a certain number of students, and, so to speak, go to the universities every day? In any case, what should the people do?

[Answer] The students are a part of the people. The students ought to regard the university environment as an environment of free discussion. If we do not create a climate of productiveness, if we are not able to assert the sovereignty of the state, if we are unable to defend our independence and our existing against the superpowers, and if we are unable to provide work for helpless people and provide the means of living for deprived people, there is no use in our sitting and guessing that the situation will be so and so if this and that happens.

Hence, they ought to know--those who are Muslims ought to know--I have emphasized many times and I emphasize again that even I myself am prepared to take part in a (?discussion). If no one volunteers, I am prepared to teach over the television, teach once a week, so that the grounds for free discussion are prepared. The brain's work cannot be done by the fist. An issue that requires thought and deliberation ought to be resolved through thinking, and the university cannot be put on the right path by the fist. We ought to [word indistinct] the university by means of thinking. Do we have the ideas? We have got the ideas. But the point is that we do not make available the ideas which we have, and we do not demonstrate the superiority of free debate. We do not show this superiority in action. If all the Islamic order which we possess is to observe Islamic discipline and arbitrariness is avoided by this and that and the other group and they avoid the formation of power centers, and we are enabled to carry out our program with order and discipline, no one in the country will be attracted to anything but Islamic thought. We could even be the center of the (?Islamic) revolution for the rest of the world. (?The question is): If we are to become the center of the world revolution, should we deny ourselves this possibility, abandon all our works and engage ourselves in clashes which are truly (?ridiculous), which are then difficult to resolve. Hence, the people should not rush to the support of this or that, unless the Revolution Council or the president ask them, or if a responsible official invite them. So it can be seen that there is order in this country and that there is Islamic order.

Last night, Mr Beheshti gave the students a very expressive example: If you see that someone has killed a person, you may say, well, I saw him killing that person, and then you may act to kill the killer and kill him. In that case, we shall take you, put you on trial, and execute you, for you are not entitled to kill the murderer. The latter should be punished by the ruler.

You must see and analyze the aspects of the matter. He might have done this correctly. And as for who was right or wrong, you only witnessed the killing. It is for the [?ruler] to study the causes and reasons.

In Islam, there is a reason for everything. There is order, and we abide by the principle of imamate [adherence to the imam]. Hence the people ought, in such affairs--and I now return to the same point--trust the people whom they have elected for the country's administration. And when they trust, they should conduct all their affairs through them. If there is something to be done in the university, well, this should take place through the minister of science. If the minister of science is not to their liking, well then, come forward and complain and bring your reason. If this official is not right, then bring another one. It is not right for the actual post to be abolished or the principle of responsibility to be ignored. Instead, the man who is incompetent should go. Well, our minister of science is engaged in reform of the educational system. For 4 months this is what he has said at every meeting of the Revolution Council. Right now, he is [word indistinct]. Our projects are ready and within 1 month they will be ready for implementation.

Well, we ourselves had this idea well in advance. [Words indistinct] our duty is to go and perform the tasks properly. And I hope that our interview will now draw the attention of the students and all Iranian people to the plans that the superpowers have drawn for us and encourage them to act with clear thinking. That is to say: to not allow affairs to be conducted in other than the right way. Our country must become calm. The political groups must come to their senses and must know that no political group is so powerful as to be able to take advantage of chaos and usurp government power. This is impossible--no way.

As for the plans that the superpowers have, we are elected by the people. We enjoy the imam's support. We are firm in our place and we proceed with firmness, God willing.

[Interviewer] I thank you.

PRESIDENT GIVES PRESANCTIONS INTERVIEW TO AL-MAJALLAH

LD220825 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 19-25 Apr 80 pp 12-14

[Interview granted by Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr to Wafiq Ramadan in Tehran "on the eve of President Carter's announcement of measures against Iran"]

[Text] The Iranian president began his talk by a quick analysis of the outcome of the Iranian parliamentary election, whose first round ended with the election of 70 out of 270 deputies who, at the end of the second round in a few weeks' time, will form the "National Iranian Consultative Assembly," that is, the Iranian parliament.

Bani-Sadr said: "What can first be observed in our parliamentary election is the popular participation; it involved about 50 percent of the electorate. Despite what was said here and there about the rigging of elections, we can see the emergency of new trends. Of course, the general framework is always Islam, but these trends are different from those of the first days of the revolution, which were totally unanimous. These new trends have begun to enjoy the same unanimity.

"Another thing to be observed is that it is no longer possible to expect the establishment of a great majority for any party in the Parliament. Taking into consideration events in Iran and the difficulties and tension around us, the Parliament, if it wishes to consolidate the revolutionary regime in Iran, must believe in cooperation and mutual understanding with the president of the republic so as to restore internal stability and implement our plans to rectify the Iranian economy."

I asked President Bani-Sadr: Shall I begin my questions with the Arab countries?

"Of course," he said.

I asked: You have made many statements about issues of interest to the Arab world. Most of these statements were offensive to one Arab country or another.

The Iranian president said: "Although some of my statements antagonized some of the Arab regimes, they definitely did not antagonize the Arab people. I must make it clear that when I speak I do so as a revolutionary struggler, and as a revolutionary struggler I cannot cheat others or myself. If they unite their efforts, some of the Arab regimes can, in my view, restore their independence and reject domination be it American or exerted by any other state. If Israel still exists and remains as strong as it is, that means that some of these regimes should not be as they now are."

I asked President Bani-Sadr to be more specific in explaining Arab-Iranian relations. He said: "Our revolution is a popular revolution staged by the people. It exists to serve this people against hegemony by major powers. But when we see a regime like the Iraqi regime, for example, adopting a hostile stand toward us and interfering in order to weaken and, if possible, topple our regime, we cannot call that a popular regime, for the people and serving its people against imperialism. From the first day of our revolution the Iraqi Government chose to adopt a hostile attitude toward us and toward our revolution and country. Later they sent delegates saying that they were ready for dialogue with us, but we refused. Recently I told Yasir 'Arafat that, according to our eastern custom, first interference must stop and then dialogue begins. There can be no dialogue when there is interference or when explosives are being thrown around. We are prepared to discuss our differences of views. Additionally, we take into consideration the unrest among the fraternal Iraqi people. It could be in our government's interest to adopt a positive attitude to the Iraqi regime so as to avoid the problems it is creating for us in Kordestan and Khuzestan (Arabistan). Of course, we could put an end to Iraqi interference but, on the other hand, we do not wish to weaken the Iraqi people's just struggle against their ruling regime.

"With regard to the Gulf countries and the other Arab oil countries in the area, U.S. monetary power, in my view, comes from the petrodollar (oil revenue surpluses) and its consequences. If we all can adopt an oil policy independent of the United States, we will then be able to set up a powerful and independent bloc which can impose its will on all our opponents. Our present weakness is due to these countries and their policies. If these countries change their policies, then our relations with them will be excellent. If they will not change, then relations will at least be cool, but we are always in solidarity with the peoples of this area, and I am sure that if the peoples of the area were allowed to express their views they would declare friendly and brotherly sentiments toward our people and revolution."

I asked President Bani-Sadr: What about the three islands (Greater and Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa) which the shah's forces occupied in 1971 in conditions which are still mysterious?

The Iranian president said: "The question of these islands is neither Arab nor Iranian. Look at the map (Bani-Sadr pointed to a big map of Iran facing him.) You can see that these islands are close to Iran. As far as we are concerned the question is one of total unification of the Islamic world. What matters for us is the indepenience of this Islamic world. The point, as far as we are concerned, is that there is a Western power in this part of the world which is the only strong power here. In the recent past the West wanted Iran to be the area's policeman. Today in revolutionary Iran we believe that our role is to expel them [as published] from here entirely. We are prepared to play a positive role with regard to our Arab relations. The Iranian foreign minister's tour of some Arab capitals is the first sign."

[Question] What about your relations with the PLO?

President Bani-Sadr replied: "Our relations are excellent, as they have always been. With regard to the Middle East problem, I consider it in the Jewish people's interest not to play the part of a cancer in the body of the Islamic world, as Israel is doing now. We are helping the Palestinians because they are just in their legitimate demand for their country. On the other hand, we do not want the existence of another foreign major power in the Islamic world.

"I have offered Yasir 'Arafat any help which he deems necessary. It is therefore up to the PLO to decide what help it wants from us."

I asked the Iranian president whether it is true that there is Iranian economic and military aid to Syria.

He replied: "Syria has always supported our revolution and at a certain stage it helped it a great deal. With regard to what is being said about Iranian aid, the fact is that we have not offered such aid, nor has Syria asked for it."

I asked President Bani-Sadr about what is being said in U.S. circles in Washington regarding continuing U.S.-Iranian contacts.

He said: "There are no contacts in the proper sense of this word. But what happened was that the Swiss ambassador in Tehran (whose embassy looks after U.S. interests in Tehran) came to see me three times and handed me a message from President Carter in response to my three demands of the United States. These are: First, that the United States condemn its past policy toward Iran; second, that it pledge not to interfere in Iran's internal affairs now or in the future; and, third, that it refrain from hindering the surrender of the former shah for trial in Iran."

[Question] What is the situation now with regard to the American Embassy hostages?

The Iranian president said: "In my capacity as president of the republic, I did not wish to interfere in this subject. But the Revolutionary Council, of which I am the chairman, made a decision which I announced in my speech on the first anniversary of the revolution (on 1 April). Now that I have made this announcement, the Revolutionary Council decided to assume responsibility for the hostages during the period immediately preceding the new Parliament's assumption of its duties provided that the United States stopped its threats to impose sanctions of any kind on Iran."

(When the Iranian president announced in his aforementioned speech that the state would soon take over the hostages from the students occupying the American Embassy, he was roundly accused of adopting a stand contrary to Imam Khomeyni's. Bani-Sadr was unable to continue his speech for several minutes because of hostile heckling.)

[Question] Mr President, do you not see that the subject of the shah and the question of the hostages are now exhausting Iran's energies and efforts?

Bani-Sadr answered: "Yes. I am of the same opinion.

These two subjects have not only become obstacles to our continuing the process of rebuilding Iran and eliminating the American vestiges here and there [sentence as published]. Naturally, if we are able to get the shah back, this will be important to us, because when the people make a decision they should achieve their aspiration. On the other hand, getting back and trying the shah would eliminate the relations existing in the world between the dominator and the downtrodden--that is, between the big powers and the small states. This is in relation to the subject of the shah; regarding the question of the hostages, it is not all that important. However, it has become a disquieting matter for us because, when a country decides to fight imperialism, it must take into consideration the reaction of world public opinion."

[Question] How are your relations with the Soviet Union? What is the situation with regard to the Iranian plan to make Afghanistan neutral?

The Iranian president said: "I still believe in the need to neutralize Afghanistan, but the temporary circumstances we are experiencing have prevented me from pursuing this matter in the proper manner. But as soon as parliament begins its work and the new government is formed, I will pursue this matter personally in a manner that will put an end to Soviet intervention in Afghanistan."

[Question] Do you really believe in exporting the revolution? Are revolutions exportable?

Bani-Sadr answered: "The revolution is not exportable but the method is. In itself, the method means nothing, because others have to look for the method that suits their revolution. When a revolution succeeds, it arouses the world's interest by its achievements. This is what makes others pursue a similar course without emulating the revolution. If some people think that we will send our forces here and there to stage revolutions, that is not our intention, nor is it one of our aims."

[Question] But you have allocated 1 billion Iranian rials (about $770 million) to aid revolutionary movements in the world.

The Iranian president said: "When we go to the border with Afghanistan and see the thousands of Afghan refugees, what must we do? Help them, or leave them to die of hunger?"

[Question] Amid all that appears to the world to be happening in Iran, how do you discharge your task as president of the republic?

Bani-Sadr said: "During the present phase and according to the constitution, I have no powers. I am waiting for the inauguration of the new Parliament and the formation of the first constitutional government to exercise my powers. But in my capacity as chairman of the Revolutionary Council and commander in chief of the Armed Forces and the internal security forces, and also by virtue of my popularity, I intervene to settle problems occurring here and there in Iran. I was in Gilan Province yesterday to settle certain administrative matters. I will visit Khuzestan in a few days' time, and so on."

L'EXPRESSO INTERVIEWS BANI-SADR 20 APR

LD231525 Rome L'ESPRESSO in Italian 20 Apr 80 p 5

[Giancesare Flesca undated interview in Tehran with Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr: "I Have Lost, But Carter Has Lost More"]

[Text] Tehran--Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, elected Iranian president just 2 months ago with 75 percent of the votes, has seen his policy rejected by Ayatollah Khomeyni. We asked him whether he was aware of the weight of this defeat. He replied sadly:

"Defeat? You in the West have fixed ideas. I had my own proposal but I am not omnipotent. The law establishes the limits of my power. Until there is a prime minister, executive power is in the hands of the Revolutionary Council. And the council has decided to leave the hostages to the students. Imam Khomeyni has approved this decision.

[Question] Do you not consider this a defeat?

[Answer] Perhaps, but I still say that this country's real problem is not the U.S. hostage question, which is now paralyzing us. When production drops still further and when the country really is in chaos, then we will see who has been defeated and who has won.

[Question] So you do not want to commit yourself any further on this issue for the time being?

[Answer] From the outset I have said that I do not approve of the embassy occupation. I have done what I could within the context of my powers. If President Carter has failed to understand this and decided that we can resolve the crisis by following the traditional patterns of a superpower policy, that is not my fault. Now I do not want to become involved any further in this affair.

[Question] How is that possible, if the world fears a war over the hostage issue?

[Answer] Does the world really fear war? I believe that the U.S. threats are nothing but bluff, as always, and if the West really is afraid of a recourse to arms, then let it intervene with respect to its powerful ally to convince it that our people's will and national pride must be respected.

[Question] Is it true that the hostages will be killed in the event of a U.S. attack?

[Answer] That is what the students, or at least some of them say. I do not believe there will be an attack and that in any case it is futile to formulate hypotheses or threats on this basis.

[Question] But, as things stand, do you not believe that the hostages' lives are in danger and that they could be the victims of a mistake or outrage?

[Answer] No, the hostages' lives are safe. And I am 100-percent sure of that.

[Question] You were also certain that you would quickly eliminate the resistance of the most extremist sector and of Khomeyni himself. But you did not succeed. And so?

[Answer] I repeat that I am not responsible for the mistakes made by the White House, for the U.S. stubborn refusal to understand the profound nature of the movement that is disrupting Iran.

[Question] Do you agree with Khomeyni when he says that all Iranians are "happy" with the break in diplomatic relations with the United States?

[Answer] I do agree, though I would say that the point in question is not diplomatic relations. If this new factor serves to put a definitive end to U.S. domination in our country, then it is welcome.

[Question] But what else do you want? Do you not realize that you are carrying out a very major blackmail threat against the entire West?

[Answer] The opposite is true. It is not 90 Americans who are the hostages of the Iranians, but 35 million Iranians who are hostages to the West, its economy, its exports. We want to extricate ourselves from this situation of being permanent hostages--that is all.

[Question] Mr President, the Americans say that they no longer have any credible interlocutor in Tehran, since even you, despite your 75 percent of votes, have been contradicted by Khomeyni. What is your answer to that?

[Answer] I know that I am stronger now than when I was elected. If the elections were to be held again now, I would win 95 percent of the votes.

[Question] What about relations with Italy? What is happening over the issue of the spare parts and the helicopters which are not being delivered?

[Answer] It seems to me that Italy is one of the European countries least capable of being independent of the United States. Let us hope that in the future your government's attitude will not prevent us from continuing such useful cooperation.

BANI-SADR INTERVIEWED ON EEC SANCTIONS, USSR AGREEMENT 23 APR

LD241053 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0949 GMT 24 Apr 80

[Text] According to AFP, Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr in an interview with Radio Europe One yesterday stated that despite the decisions adopted by the nine EEC members on imposing sanctions against Iran, his country does not intend to destroy communication bridges with Europe. Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said that these sanctions, which are more political than economic, will not make much of an impact on Iran. He added that European countries have made a mistake by their support for America, because the purpose of the policy that the United States has adopted is not to release the hostages, but rather is aimed at exploiting them.

The Iranian president said there was a plan for the release of the hostages which the Americans did not pursue. He added that if America were truly interested in the release of the hostages the issue would have been solved long ago. Regarding an Iran-USSR agreement, Abolhasan Bahi-Sadr also stated that Iran will not allow the Soviet Union to replace America in Iran.

Due to the importance of this interview the full text of it will be released by the president's cultural and press adviser on Saturday.

MO'INFAR COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE EEC OIL BOYCOTT

LD231818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] In an interview with the PARS NEWS AGENCY in connection with the decisions reached by the foreign ministers of the EEC member-countries in Brussels, 'Ali Akbar Mo'infar, Iranian oil minister, said: During the past day or two foreign news agencies have reported that the EEC ministers' conference would boycott the purchase of Iranian oil, and in this connection the Voice of America has kicked up a great deal of fuss, whereas at the end of that conference no such decision was made.

The oil minister added: The oil which is currently being exported to the EEC member countries amounts to 342,000 barrels per day. Should these exports be stopped, we would sell a part of these to some of our other customers, and we would keep the other part in our storage tanks by lowering the present level of production [as heard]. Indeed that state of affairs would be conducive to implementing a plan for controlling the production level and the country's oil exports.

He added: We do not need Mr Jimmy Carter to become our guardian. Basically, we do not have any direct transactions with the EEC member governments, but rather our oil transactions are with the multinational oil companies which do not perforce transport the purchased oil to their countries, but rather carry it to various parts of the globe. Of course, there is a possibility that such companies, from the political standpoint, might be subjected to pressure by their own governments and make certain statements. However, from the economic viewpoint, they ususally bear in mind their own interests and decide in a manner dictated by their own financial interests.

MINISTER SALIMI ANNOUNCES COOPERATION WITH USSR, E. EUROPE

LD232028 Tehran in English to Europe 1830 GMT 23 Apr 80

[Text] (?After the drafting of) an economic protocol between Iran and the Soviet Union, the countries of Romania, the German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria and Poland have announced their readiness to offer their economic cooperation to Iran. It is expected that the economic activities between Iran and the Soviet Union are developing following various talks held in Tehran by the Soviet commercial and economic delegation. Iran's exportation of gas to the Soviet Union will be resumed (?in view of) the national interests of Iran.

The Iranian minister of finance and economic affairs, Reza Salimi, who was announcing this news, further said Iran had held talks with Czechoslovakia, as well as the German Democratic Republic. For meeting some of the requirements of Iran, Salimi said similar talks will be held with Poland and other Eastern Europe countries.